

Religion In Review Pictures '73 As Year Of Sho

By Norman B. Rohrer, Director
EP News Service

The tumultuous year of 1973 was surfeited with surprise, bringing a succession of shocks that put hope on hold as a decade of violence ground to a close.

Church leaders who applauded the President's inauguration, his hand resting on Isaiah 2:4, squirmed with embarrassment when he was later forced to declare, "I am not a crook!"

Charges of immorality toppled one government official after another. Watergate, and all it implied, raised a debate over pietistic religion vs. situation ethics: Was the strategy of Richard Nixon to blame? Or was Jeb Magruder's admission that William

Sloan Coffin's "end justifies the means" the demon?

In a historic, unprecedented move, Congress approved a Presidential-appointed Vice President — an Episcopalian layman — without the popular vote.

The 11-year Indochina War, which took 46,000 American lives, wounded 304,000, and cost the U.S. a minimum of \$110 billion, finally grounded to a halt. The devastation to Indochinese was incalculable. POWs marched home in 1973, ending as many as seven years of agonizing waiting.

While killing in Vietnam stopped, it was made legal in hospitals when the Supreme Court gave women the constitutional right to an abortion dur-

ing the first six months of pregnancy. Groups like the National Right to Life Committee and many church leaders fought the decree unsuccessfully.

"Pro-Life" bracelets sprouted. Legal battles were fought over the personhood of the fetus and anguished cries of anti-abortionists were heard in the

land. "Eternal" flames at marble memorials across the nation were snuffed out as the big E for Ecology was

applied to the crisis of Energy. Preachers for decades have called unsuccessfully for less ostentatious Christmas celebrations; Middle East Arabs accomplished it in one day with an oil embargo against the West following the bloody "Yom Kippur War."

The 130 religious groups participating in Key 73 were energetic in their evangelistic advances, but fell short of the theme: "Calling a Continent to Christ." Jews termed it a "dangerous threat," and some evangelical groups were suspicious of its ecumenicity. But Key 73 resulted in a massive distribution of more than 35 million copies of the Scriptures and organized some 50,000 house Bible study groups still meeting.

Trends

As skylab orbited overhead the pace

(Continued On Page 3)

Watergate, Mid-East War

"Top Ten" News Stories On Religion In 1973

NEW YORK (RNS) — Concern over American morality in the wake of the Watergate scandals was the top 1973 news development in religion.

The Middle East war, including its effect on Jewish-Christian relations, ranked second.

The ten top stories, chosen by the news and photo staffs of Religious News Service, were:

1. Religious evaluations of the meaning of Watergate and determination to shore up national morality in the future.

2. War between Israel and Egypt and Syria in October, and the impact of the conflict on interreligious relations in the Middle East and the West.

3. U. S. Supreme Court decisions (followed by Right to Life efforts), permitting abortion, banning aid to parochial education and tightening pornography standards.

4. Evangelistic campaigns — Key 73, charismatic movement, Billy Graham's South Korea crusade at-

tracting largest crowd ever to gather for a sermon.

5. Women advance in the church: National Council of Churches elects Claire Randall as general secretary, Pope Paul establishes commission on women, Conservative Jews count women in minyan, Episcopal women fight for, but lose, right of ordination.

6. Conservative - modern conflicts in U. S. Protestantism, highlighted by tensions in Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and formation of National Presbyterian Church by some conservatives in the Presbyterian Church, U. S. (Southern).

7. Anglican-Roman Catholic theological consensus on the nature and meaning of the ministry.

8. Church support for minority groups, especially for Indians at Wounded Knee, Hispanic farm workers in California and strikers at Farah plant in Texas.

9. Religious opposition to governments in Brazil, Chile (after Allende overthrow), South Africa, Rhodesia, South Korea, the Philippines, and Soviet restrictions on Jewish immigration.

10. Energy crisis: Implications for changing values and life styles, and impact in church attendance patterns. Other developments placing high were:

—Church appeals for amnesty for Indo-Chinese war draft resisters.

—Supreme Court refusal to restore tax exemption of Evangelist Billy James Hargis.

—Religious liberty as dramatized in trial of Ted Patrick, "deprogrammer" of members of fundamentalist sects.

—Possibilities for peace in Northern Ireland; formation of Council of Ireland.

—Celebration of World Council of Churches' 25th anniversary.

—Vatican document reaffirming dogma of papal infallibility.

—Refusal of U. S. Catholic bishops to permit communion in the hand.

Comet Kohoutek Joins In Welcoming New Year

Comet Kohoutek appeared in our skies last month, and will, within the next few days, be at its brightest, as if it were joining the world in welcoming the New Year. Christians should look upon it with realization

that God made this, and all of the multitude of bodies in the heavens, and that it is following the path He gave to it. May it teach us to as faithfully follow the paths he has given us. —(BNS PHOTO.)

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Church Membership Development

'74 Convention Emphasis

Church Membership Development will be the special emphasis of the Mississippi Baptist Convention during 1974, according to Dr. Earl Kelly, Jackson, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This is third annual special emphasis of a five-year plan adopted during the tenure of office of Dr. W.

Douglas Hudgins as executive secretary-treasurer and has been approved by both the Mississippi Baptist Convention and Convention Board.

The five-year plan began in 1972 with special emphasis on Sunday School Enlargement and the coordinator was Rev. Bryant M. Cummings, director of the Board's Sunday School Department.

The 1974 special emphasis for the month of March will be "Church: The Sunday Night Place."

This is a program designed by the Church Training Department to increase attendance both in Church Training and in the evening church services.

The purpose is to focus attention on the need for training, worship, and fellowship.

Churches which enter into this promotion will be supported by state-

wide radio, television, and billboard publicity.

This program climaxes on March 31 with "High Attendance Night in Church Training" to be observed simultaneously throughout the state, Mr. King added.

Sunday School will continue through the year its major thrust, "People-to-People," an effort designed to win more people to faith in Christ and enlist more people in Bible study.

The Evangelism Department, in addition to its continued emphasis on the use of WIN materials, has produced a guide to spiritual growth through daily devotionals and twinning. It is entitled "Forty Days on the Mountain Top." Its use will be promoted during the spring of 1974.

The Evangelism Department will plan a special series of conferences (Continued On Page 2)

Church-State Top 10 1973 Stories Told

WASHINGTON, D. C., (C-SNS) — The Supreme Court's rulings against parochial head the list of the ten top church-state stories for 1973, according to a year-end analysis by the staff of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The ten most significant church-state news stories which will appear in the January 1974 Church & State are:

1. On June 25 the United States Supreme Court struck down tax credits, tuition reimbursement, "mandated services," and other forms of parochial aid as violative of the First Amendment.

(Continued on page 2)

January Is "Make Your Will" Month

By Carey E. Cox

Executive Secretary

Mississippi Baptist Foundation

January is designated "Make Your Will Month" in the Southern Baptist calendar of activities.

It is a time when Southern Baptists are reminded of the services offered by the state Foundations and of the response which should be made to its services.

Much thought is given by most Baptists in the area of improving their economic status.

Unfortunately, the same amount of thought is not given to God's will in the area of continuing stewardship.

Every Christian would do well to constantly remember that we are stewards of that part of God's material blessings which shall be left at our decease.

Your last will and testament can express your Christian concern when you provide for the continuing support of the Lord's work through your Baptist Foundation.

Will making, including a bequest for God, evolves in an abiding dimensions in Christian stewardship. As Baptists come to maturity in this concept, the Lord's work will be financially stabilized through large streams of support now untapped.

Swor To Be MC Counselor For '74 Spring Semester

Dr. Chester Swor of Jackson, one of the nation's foremost student counselors, will join the Mississippi College staff for the Spring semester of 1974 as a visiting counselor.

Dr. Lewis Nobles, president, announced the coming of Dr. Swor, indicating his primary service role will be to be available to students for

(Continued on page 2)

Annually your Mississippi Baptist Foundation is increasing the number of wills properly produced whereby some part of the estate shall ultimately give support to some area of the denominational program.

At present there are wills in probate which will bring many thousand dollars to the Foundation for institutional support.

In addition to assisting people with (Continued On Page 2)

DO YOU HAVE A WILL?



Youth Group

A Christian Witness In Israel

A Baptist Youth group from Florida, has just had opportunity for an unusual witness for Christ in Israel.

The "Holy Land Tour Choir" and the handbell choir from the First Baptist Church, Merritt Island, Florida, were part of a tour group led by Evangelist Anis Shorosh of Mobile. Several other persons from a number of states, were in the party.

One of the highlights of the tour was their visit to the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem to minister to the wounded in the Yom Kippur War, which is the latest war.

Mr. Shorosh, who heads the Anis Shorosh Evangelistic Association, based in Mobile, said that "the most remarkable thing about it was that I, being from an Arabic background, spoke and led a 60-voice choir at the largest Jewish Medical Center in the world to comfort those of their people who were wounded by our people."

Mr. Shorosh said an American woman, Rose Matzkin, was present for the event. Mrs. Matzkin is president of Hadassah International which collects money for the State of Israel. Continuing, he said: "After I led the singing I told the patients I was praying for peace and for them. I told them my father was killed, too, in 1943, which was the initial war. I told them I was a very bitter young man until the age of 18, when I found my peace with God through Jesus,

the Messiah. I said, 'I wanted you to know that because of Jesus I love you' and do you know what they said?

The response was immediate. They said, 'We love you too because of (Continued On Page 2)

Shoppers Find 'Oasis' In Mall—Thanks To Calvary Church

By J. Jay Thrasher
(By The Baptist Press)

A Southern Baptist congregation here came up with a Christmas present in the guise of a "Noel Oasis," where weary shoppers were offered coffee, spiced tea, a place to sit and a friendly chat.

It takes something special to become a "perennial favorite" among the unending parade of booths and displays at the massive Jackson Mall Shopping Center, but the 3,600-member Calvary Baptist Church here did it.

The booth was set up for its third year and, from all indications, broke its own record for patronage this Christmas season, according to the church's pastor, Joe H. Tuten.

The minister said the idea for "Noel Oasis" grew from "a desire to take the ministry of the church into the shopping center and business community."

Customers who stopped to chat expressed amazement that the church was sponsoring the project on its own and paying all expenses.

No efforts were made to proselytize persons who visited the booth, but some 200 church laymen, who volunteered for two to four hour shifts, encouraged people to be mindful of the religious significance of the season.

An American E. Society tract, titled "Know Him?", was also given to individuals stopping at the booth.

"The church unfortunately has, in the minds of some people, the image of always asking. We wanted to give something of ourselves," Tuten said.

Members of the church benefitted, along with shoppers. Tuten cited "the joy" the church members gained by being involved in the project. J. Jay Thrasher is religious editor for the Clarion-Ledger, daily newspaper in Jackson, Miss.)

Membership Development

1974 Emphasis

(Continued From Page 1)

In cooperation with the Brotherhood Department they will sponsor a conference which will be a demonstration of and a promotion of a retreat for Christian growth.

Special materials for Doctrinal Emphasis Week in April will be ready early in the year. This will be a syllabus prepared for use in Mississippi. It will deal with doctrines related to personal spiritual growth.

It will be offered as an alternative to the regular Doctrinal Emphasis Week books produced annually by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Another supportive promotion will call on pastors to place added emphasis on the use of the Bible in church services and activities. This also will be ready for distribution early in 1974.

A regular Bible emphasis is the Bible Explorer's Drill and Youth Bible Drill promoted annually by the Church Training Department.

A series of Pastor Dialogues has been projected for early in 1974 which will be under the direction of Dr. Kelly. This will involve a personal visit to each resident pastor of the state by some member of the Convention Board staff.

The purpose of these dialogues is to listen to what the pastor has to say about his needs and those of the church he serves in an effort to direct the energies of the Convention Board toward the meeting of those needs through its various programs.

Rev. Leon Emery, Church Administration consultant in the Cooperative Missions Department, is preparing some guidelines for church leadership renewal.

The format will involve planning retreats for key leadership to come together in a spirit of prayer, confession and commitment to look at themselves, the mission of the church, community and church needs, and to plan a program of work to meet these needs.

Evangelism was the principal point of emphasis in 1973 with the coordinator of that program being Rev. Roy Colburn, Jackson, secretary of the Evangelism Department of the Convention Board.

Stewardship and missions will be the emphasis in 1974 with co-coordinators to be Rev. John Alexander, director of the Board's Stewardship Department and Miss Marjean Patterson, executive secretary of the State Baptist WMU.

Rev. Carey E. Cox, Jackson, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation, will cooperate with the co-coordinators in the 1974 emphasis.

Christian Citizenship will be the special concern for 1976 with Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Convention's Christian Action Commission.

First, Jackson, Calls Texan As New Pastor

The Reverend Franklin Dawes Pollard of Dallas, Texas is the new pastor of the First Baptist Church of Jackson.

In session, Sunday, Mississippi's largest congregation voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Pulpit Committee in calling the Reverend Pollard to the pastorate of the downtown church effective mid-January.

He is pastor of the Shiloh Terrace Baptist Church in north Dallas — a church which has grown under his dynamic leadership to a present membership of 3,230.

He is vice president of the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and was selected this year to preach the annual sermon to the BGCT.

Pollard has been selected for other positions of responsibility in denominational service. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard Payne College and has served as professor of Bible at West Texas State University.

He is a native Texan and a graduate of Texas A and M University in business administration. At A and M, he was president of Baptist Student Union, a varsity baseball player and a cadet major in the ROTC. After being called to the ministry, he received his theological training at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as president of the Texas Alumni of Southwestern.

He is married to the former Jane Shepard and they have two children — Brent, an eighth grader and Suzanne, a fifth grader.

Before going to the Shiloh Terrace church in 1970, Pollard served other pastorates in Texas including First Baptist Churches in Tulsa, Dimmitt, Seagraves and Loving. He was associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Big Spring.

Since Pollard became pastor of the Shiloh Terrace Church, resident membership has increased to 3,250 with a total of 1,450 additions, including 493 baptisms. The church budget shows an increase from \$244,000 to \$415,000. Sunday school attendance averages 1,175.

Pollard, 30, is the son of Mrs. Daniel Spurgeon Pollard and the late Mr. Pollard. His father owned and operated an oil well servicing company and the family lived at various times in Olney, Wichita Falls and Graham, Texas.

Mrs. Pollard's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Shepard of Jermyn, Texas. Her father is a rancher — farmer with interests in Jack and Young counties.

The Pollards are both graduates of Graham high school. She is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan College with majors in home economics and biology. She is a registered interior designer and is interested in art and music.

Commenting on their recommendation of the Reverend Pollard for the largest church of any denomination in the state, the Pulpit Committee noted that he has "extremely good rapport with this people. He is also much in demand for seminars on college campuses and his special emphasis is in reaching the young people."

Pollard was the keynote speaker for the state Baptist Student Union convention this year.

Miss Hunt Will Retire Oct. 5, '74

BIRMINGHAM — Miss Alma Hunt will retire as executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union October 5, 1974. She has been serving in this position since 1948 — elected May 18 and assumed full responsibility October 1.

Public announcement of her retirement will be made at an official dinner in her honor to be given by the WMU Executive Board on Friday evening, January 11, 1974, concluding the annual Executive Board Meeting for Promotion in Birmingham, Alabama.

Public appreciation will also be expressed to Miss Hunt during the WMU Annual Meeting in Dallas next June, during the WMU Conference at Glorieta in July, and during the WMU Conference at Ridgecrest in August.

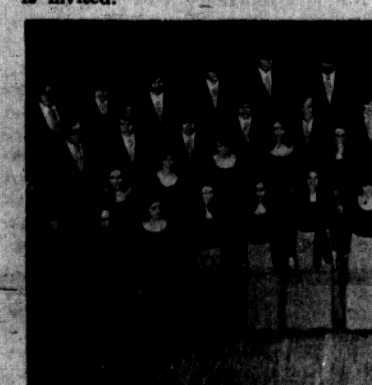
Miss Hunt's successor will be elected by the WMU Executive Board. No definite timetable has been charted for considering the next executive secretary. The Board's Finance and Personnel Committee, composed of nine vice-presidents, is charged with the responsibility of selecting a nominee for consideration by the Board.

Guest Organ Artist To Be At BMC

The Department of Music at Blue Mountain College will present Billy Trotter in a guest organ recital on Monday evening, January 7.

Mr. Trotter has been a member of the music faculty at Mississippi College since 1965 and is assistant professor of music. He is the official organist of the college and organist at First Church, Clinton.

Included in the guest organ recital program are compositions by Bach, Pachelbel, Arne, Withrow, Dupre, and Franck. The recital which will begin at 8 p.m. will be presented in the sanctuary of Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain. The public is invited.



Billy Trotter, organist.

Carey Chorale On January Tour

The Carey College Chorale, under direction of Dr. Donald Winters, Dean of the School of Music, William Carey College, will be on tour throughout the state January 2-17. January 2 they were at Bay Springs. Other places on schedule are: Jan. 3, First, Piquette; Jan. 4, First, Poplarville; Jan. 5, First, Brookhaven; Jan. 6, First, Lucedale; Jan. 7, First, Gulfport; Jan. 8, First, Philadelphia; Jan. 9, First, Lexington; Jan. 10, Eastlawn, Pascagoula; Jan. 11, First, Louisville; Jan. 12, Harrisburg, Tupelo; Jan. 13, First, Pontotoc; Jan. 14, First, Booneville; Jan. 15, Calvary, Jackson; Jan. 16, Highland, Meridian; Jan. 17, Temple, Hattiesburg.

The youth choir group from Merritt Island, Florida, above center, recently visited in Israel. (Jerusalem is in background). Rev. Anis Shorosh, tour director, is at extreme left.

Christian Witness In Israel

(Continued From Page 1)

Moses. The ice was broken and we went on with the program."

Mr. Shorosh said the visit was later broadcast on radio. His party heard it atop the Mountain of Transfiguration where monks prepared dinner for the crowd of 180 people.

The Convention President Speaks

Last week, I wrote along the line of each church participating in the Gulf-shore Restoration Campaign. Then I made an appeal to each church to not only participate, but also get their pledge cards into the office.

Now I want to make a different appeal. I would like very much for this to be extremely personal to each reader. As the general chairman of this campaign, we are also seeking individual contributions. You may be approached and you may not be by some person. But, no doubt, you would like a personal part in this worthy cause. You may even want to memorialize someone in this very worthy project. The memorials start at \$3,000 and go to \$100,000. Of course, I am making an appeal to anyone who can and would make a contribution. If you desire more information along this line, you may get in touch with me, Dr. Kelly, or Mr. Art Nelson.

We have no central office in this work and no full-time staff member. So you can see, we are depending on those who love the Lord and want to see His cause prosper. Knowing Mississippi Baptists as I do, I know you can be counted on to do your part. — David Grant.

Swor To Be MC

(Continued From Page 1)

counseling in their deeply personal, highly confidential problems — essentially matters not included in the scope of responsibility of staff members of the college who work in student relations.

Dr. Swor says that this opportunity to be for a while in the life of his "top favorite" of all the colleges in America in daily contact with his "top favorite" folks — college students — appeals to him very greatly.

No newcomer to Mississippi College, Dr. Swor served as Dean of Men and as an instructor in the English department in earlier years. Since his first stint at the college, he has spoken and counseled throughout America and on eight missions abroad.

In addition to his undergraduate degree from Mississippi College, Dr. Swor holds the master's degree from the University of North Carolina and a professional diploma in guidance from Columbia University. Additional study has been done in New York University, Oxford University in England, and research in the Jung Library in Zurich. Four colleges, including Mississippi College, have conferred honorary doctorates upon him.

Dr. Swor is also a noted author. He has authored or co-authored seven books, and the eighth book a youth book co-authored by Mississippi College senior Scott Cook of Jackson, is now in manuscript with 1974 as the possible publication date.



Dr. Donald Swor.

James D. Whitmire, the church's minister of music, who directed the choir on the tour, reported that they sang concerts in Bethlehem, Ramallah, Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Gaza Strip and the Baptist Seminary in Jerusalem.

The Nazareth concert was telecast on the Israel national TV. The choir was presented a certificate thanking them for singing for the soldiers and the goodwill tour of Israel.

The choir trained for singing in Hebrew and Arabic so they could sing to specific groups in their own language. Dr. Jimmie E. Jackson is pastor of the Merritt Island church.

The group observed the Lord's Supper at the Garden Tomb on Wednesday morning.

Upon returning home Mr. Shorosh declared that "I can honestly say, that the whole trip shall stand in the minds of the 127 Christian Pilgrims whom I led on this journey to the land of Jesus as a monument to God's power. He answered so many prayers. His protection while traveling in such dangerous zones. He also presented us with open doors to share His message of love through Jesus with Arabs and Jews alike."

January

'Make Your Will Month'

(Continued From Page 1)

their wills, your Mississippi Baptist Foundation establishes trust agreements whereby the total earned income from the very beginning, gives strength to our Baptist program.

Also many trust agreements are written with the income going to the donor or up to two people for their lifetime and thereafter to the denominational cause determined by them.

Last year the Mississippi Baptist Foundation proved itself to be a good steward as an agency of your convention by producing \$238,796 earned income on the funds committed. In addition to this \$74,074 in capital gains were added back to the principal of funds. Out of the earned income \$42,833.04 was designated for scholarships, \$116,319.18 endowment income for our institutions, \$22,775.94 for direct mission causes and \$31,580.40 for various denominational causes and annuities.

The progress of the Foundation is the result of God's blessings upon this agency of your convention. Your Foundation feels that the Baptists of Mississippi are increasingly aware of

Church-State

(Continued From Page 1)

2. The Roman Catholic bishops of the United States switched from opposing to supporting proposals to amend the First Amendment to allow government-sponsored prayers and sectarian religious instruction in public schools.

3. Efforts were renewed to amend the Constitution to authorize government-sponsored prayer and devotional activities in public schools.

4. The Supreme Court ruled in January that state laws could not unduly restrict the right of women to free choice in the matter of abortion during the early stages of pregnancy.

5. Colombia and the Vatican signed a new concordat in July which would continue the Catholic Church's extraordinary privileges in that country as well as its virtual monopoly in the field of education.

6. Federal and state courts continued to strike down tax aid for sectarian educational institutions in New Hampshire, New Jersey, Washington State, Washington, D.C., Missouri, Illinois and Virginia.

7. The Nixon Administration continued its support for "experiments" with the voucher plan for full public fund of parochial and private schools.

8. The Supreme Court agreed in June to hear Americans United's appeal from an Internal Revenue Service decision in 1969 to terminate the religious liberty organization's tax deductible status.

9. The National Council of Churches told Congress in April that it opposed the tax credit plan for providing public aid for parochial schools.

10. The Vatican attempted to enhance its political influence around the world by expanding its system of diplomatic relations.

40 Rally Speakers Named By Christian Action Commission

Forty men will speak in as many county-wide rallies for Christian Action over the state, according to Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Christian Action Commission.

The men and the places where they will appear are as follows: Jan. 15 — Dr. Joe Tuten, Immanuel Baptist Church, Natchez; Dr. Bob Hamblin, First, Corinth; Rev. David Pratt, Parkway, Kosciusko; Rev. Larry Kennedy, Parkway, Houston; Rev. P. A. Michel, First, Hazlehurst; Rev. Oliver Laddner, First, Mount Olive; Rev. Leland Hogan, First, Leakesville; Rev. Frank Gunn, First, Moss Point; Rev. Eugene Dobbs, Bay Springs; Dr. Joe Triplett, Poplar Springs Drive, Meridian; Rev. James Hurt, North Greenwood; Rev. Mel Craft, East Columbia; Rev. William S. Stewart, First, Philadelphia; Rev. Ace McVey, Central, McComb; Dr. Clifton Perkins, Lyon; Rev. Tom Hudson, First, Morton; Rev. Tom Rayburn, First, New Albany; Rev. Dan Morton; Calvary, Greenville; Rev. W. C. Burns Jr., Ellisville, First, Waynesboro; Rev. Dan Thompson, First, Louisville.

Jan. 17 — Dr. Dudley Wilson, Immanuel, Cleveland; Rev. Guy Reedy, Bruce; Dr. Van Hardin, First, Quitman; Dr. John Lee Taylor, Carriage Hills, Southaven; Dr. Robert Barnes, Grace Memorial, Gulfport; Rev. P. A. Michel, Calvary, Jackson; Rev. James Yates, Lexington; Rev. Kenneth Roberts, Prentiss; Rev. W. C. Burns, Taylorsville, First, Ellisville; Rev. J. Ray Grissett, DeKalb; Dr. Harold Kitchings, Trinity, Carthage; Dr. John Traylor, 38th Avenue, Hattiesburg; Rev. Larry Kennedy, Calvary, Tupelo; Rev. William Stewart, Calvary, Starkville; Dr. Brooks West, First, Poplarville; Dr. Bill Baker, First, Pearl; Dr. Earl Kelly, Bowmar Avenue, Vicksburg.

Jan. 24, Rev. Wm. F. Evans will speak in the rally at the West Heights Baptist Church in Pontotoc.

In December twenty men who will serve as consultants were oriented to

the Christian Action Commission work. Local people will also participate as time will be given to community concerns as well as to state and national emphases.

Seminary Extension

(Continued From Page 1)

Mississippi last year. "Therman Bryant, of the Cooperative Missions Department, is the Seminary Extension representative in Mississippi.

"With the good work Mr. Bryant is doing," Rigdon said, "we believe there will be a significant increase in utilization of Seminary Extension resources in providing continuing education opportunities for Baptist pastors in Mississippi."

Joe N. McKeever Accepts Pastorate First, Columbus

Dr. Joe N. McKeever, Minister of Evangelism of First Baptist Church, Jackson, for the past three years, has resigned to accept the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Columbus.

His ministry at the Columbus church officially begins with services on Sunday, January 6.

McKeever, who has served on the staff of the Jackson church since January 1, 1971, came to that position from the pastorate of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Greenville, Miss.

Prior to that he had served as pastor of Unity Baptist Church, Kimberly, Alabama; as assistant pastor of Central Baptist Church in Tarrant, Ala., and at Paradise Baptist Church, Paradise, La.

He is married to the former Margaret Henderson of Birmingham. She attended Samford University in Birmingham. The McKeever family have two sons, Joe Neil, Jr., age 10 and John Marshall, age 7.

McKeever is a native of Nauvoo, Alabama, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl McKeever, still reside.

Education was in the elementary schools of Nauvoo and Affinity, W. Va. High school was at Double Springs, Alabama. One year was spent at Berry College, Rome, Ga., and then he completed college work at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, graduating in 1962.

McKeever was called to preach in 1961 while he was a senior in college. He was licensed and ordained by West End Baptist Church, Birmingham.

He attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans, where he received his Th.M. degree in 1967, and the Doctor of Ministry degree in December, 1973.

Even before entering the ministry, McKeever was active in Christian youth work. For two years he served as chairman of the Birmingham Baptist Youth rally, and later helped organize similar rallies in New Orleans and Greenville.

He served as president of the Washington County Baptist Pastors' Conference; Secretary of the Greenville Ministerial Association; and was executive secretary of the Greater Delta Crusade for Christ with Bill Glass in 1969.

He served as Pastor Advisor for the state-wide Mississippi Baptist Student Convention, 1971-72.

He is listed in the 1973 edition of "Outstanding Young Men in America."

His hobby is religious cartooning. Cartoons have appeared in a number of daily newspapers and state Baptist publications.

He also has done some writing and articles have appeared in Outreach and Church Administration, magazines published by the Sunday School Board.

At First Church, Jackson, McKeever has directed the program of evangelism, but also has filled the pulpit regularly, especially during the recent period when the church has been without a pastor. He has been active in many areas of the church life.

First Church, Columbus, is one of the largest Baptist churches in Mississippi and long has been one of the leading churches in the denomination in the state. The church has been pastorless for the past several months.

MADRID, Spain — Despite heavy rain and competition with a major television athletic event, the Century-men, a 42-voice male choir composed of music directors of Southern Baptist churches from 22 states, drew a large crowd at a recent concert at the University of Madrid. According to missionary Mrs. Charles W. Whitten, this program was a major step for religion in Spain "where a few years ago restrictions in regard to religious freedom would not have permitted such a public program."

To help in the energy crisis, one conscientious soul we heard about takes the battery out of his electric watch every night.

1973 News Events Around The World Affect Christians And Churches



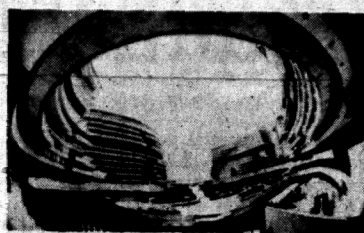
With the signing of the Vietnam cease-fire, more than 500 prisoners of war came home. The nation heard testimonies from many of them about the strength they derived from religious faith during their ordeal. Here, the family of a former POW comes running into his arms as he arrives at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., in March.



President Richard Nixon (left) confers with Rep. Gerald Ford in the White House after nominating Mr. Ford to the Vice Presidency in October. He took oath of office in December.



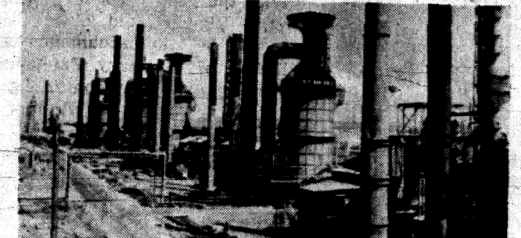
War broke out again in the Middle East. A cease-fire agreement between Egypt and Israel was reached, prisoners of war were exchanged, and steps were being taken toward achieving a permanent settlement.



Washington's Watergate office-apartment complex, scene of an aborted burglary of the Democratic National Committee headquarters, became the symbol of wide-ranging scandals which rocked the Nixon Administration.



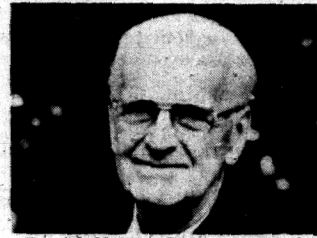
A Vietnamese cease-fire agreement was reached in January. But in neighboring Cambodia, the war went on. A Cambodian woman stands amid the ruins of her bombed-out home. U. S. bombing continued in Cambodia until terminated by Congress in August.



The eyes of the world focused on oil refineries and their products late in the year when an Arab boycott of petroleum triggered a world-wide energy crisis.



Billy Graham celebrated his 55th birthday during 1973, but showed no signs of slowing down. He preached to a crowd near Seoul, South Korea, estimated at more than one million, the largest of his career.



Dr. L. Nelson Bell, one of the most prominent clergymen in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern), died in August at the age of 79.



Dead trees and livestock on the verge of starvation in a village in Upper Volta, one of six West African nations where a five-year drought reached near calamity conditions in 1973. Church agencies rushed aid to the area.

Religion In Review Pictures '73 As Year Of Shocks And Surprises

(Continued From Page 1)

on earth slowed to conserve finite resources of fossil fuel. Violent crime increased 4%. Capital punishment was outlawed nationally but revived in some state governments. Some churches introduced credit-card donations. A team tried unsuccessfully to find Noah's Ark on Mt. Ararat. Educators found increasing flaws in evolutionary views of man's origins. Americans consumed nearly 5 billion gallons of alcoholic beverages — spending more than two and a half times as much on the drug as on religious and welfare projects.

Pennsylvania introduced "no fault" divorce. Increased sightings of UFOs terrorized some, entertained others. More than half the people (53%) supported euthanasia for persons with incurable diseases. Australian researchers successfully fertilized a human egg which lived for nine days after transplantation in a woman's womb.

Views on premarital sex in the U.S. were significantly liberalized in 1973. Most people, pollsters discovered, pressed a quick, sudden death. One-third of all 17th graders questioned in one city admitted drinking alcoholic beverages. Pot smoking rose by 10%. Around the world 1,000 people each day committed suicide. Scientists discovered chemical seeds of life on moon dirt, needing only water to sprout and grow. "Laugh In" went off TV because its directors lamented, "There's nothing sacred left to ridicule in this country." Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen stated that the "aesthetic principle" which traditionally served American society had passed to the totalitarian countries — Russia and China. The U. S., in his view, had become "worldly," while the "natural morals" of the Soviets and Chinese eclipsed the morals of Americans.

Denominations

After a steady decline in church attendance for a decade, churchgoing in the U.S. leveled off in 1973. Last year 40% of adults attended church or synagogue; this year was slightly lower than 1970's 42%.

Evangelicals were "gaining momentum" in the U.S., Evangelist Billy Graham observed as NAE entered its fourth decade. Roman Catholics were described as "nearly insolvent." Both groups looked with fascination on the burgeoning charismatic, David Wilkerson predicted an era of persecution for tongues-speaking Christians but their numbers continued to swell in 1973. Catholics alone counted 400,000 among their 48,460,427 U.S. communicants.

In late November, an "ad hoc" committee of 32 leaders in the charismatic movement, broadly representative of the classical or oldline Pentecostal groups, Roman Catholic charismatics and those receiving the so-called baptism of the Holy Spirit in the major Protestant denominations, launched plans for an international "Spirit in '76" observance in Southern California in May and June of 1976. The events, including area theological conferences, will culminate with a large celebration in the Los Angeles Coliseum on Pentecost Sunday, 1976. The initial thrust came from Melodyland Christian Center, Anaheim, California.

While the gloomy predicted the death by 2000 A.D. of the institutional church, conservative churches kept flourishing — especially their Sunday schools.

Columnist Lester Kinsolving let out in 1973 what he called a "well guarded secret": Christian Science is losing ground and may be rapidly disappearing.

Anglican Archbishop Michael Ramsey in London said he would be "entirely happy" if the Church of England would disappear and a body without government ties organized to take its place.

United Presbyterians voted them-

selves out of the nine-member Consultation on Church Union. Later commissioners voted the denomination back in. Some conservative members of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S., despite the protestations of Moderator L. Nelson Bell, bolted to form the Continuing Presbyterian Church.

Conservatives within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod strengthened their position after a lengthy and dramatic struggle against liberals. The Rev. Jacob A. O. Preus was re-elected president. Dr. John Tietjen, president of Concordia Theological Seminary, was voted out by the conservatives.

The Assemblies of God announced this year an increase of 10.7 percent overseas and a 100 percent increase during the past six years. Up also were memberships of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, Southern Baptist Convention (which drafted a \$35 million budget), the Evangelical Free Church, Baptist General Conference, Conservative Baptists, Mennonites, to show a trend.

Some 20,000 black church members marked the 33rd anniversary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., the nation's largest black church group. Tom Bradley, Los Angeles' first black mayor, credited the churches with having helped him win the election. The Africa Inland Mission began sponsoring black evangelists among U.S. urban areas as well as white workers among black Africans overseas.

Sentiment moved toward taxing churches. A Delaware minister urged Christians to free themselves from their "privileged status" in relation to state government and fight for better government.

Missions

The spotlight of international missionizing, held so long by North America, gradually began swinging to Asia this year. Twenty-five Asian delegates from 13 countries met in Seoul to form the First All-Asia Mission Consultation. "Afericasia" was also born — a mission advance led by Samuel Kim of Korea — to serve developing nations. More than 200 indigenous mission agencies are operating in the Third World already. The 84-member Asian Seminar on Religion and Development challenged the Christian church to "unscientization" — the raising of consciousness among the poor and oppressed.

Christian work flourished in Eastern Europe countries, especially in Romania where believers pressed for freedoms guaranteed by their constitution. Soviets eased pressures on believers in many areas, but the price remained high for the faithful.

The Cambodian church was growing rapidly. Signs of spiritual life were observed behind the Bamboo Curtain.

Interismo served more than 200 Christian organizations using its computer-based system to find missionary personnel — organizations which felt the pinch of reduced purchasing power abroad with the 10% devaluation of the U.S. dollar.

Zambia criticized missionaries for failing to combat racism and social evils. All but three missionaries were withdrawn from Somali Republic. Uganda President Idi Amin warned he would deport all religious leaders "who make trouble," and the government of South Africa barred a trio of missionaries from Namibia (South-West Africa). Israelis also called for concerted action against Christian missionaries within their borders and officials in Muslim Afghanistan razed the beautiful Kabul Community Church, the only Protestant sanctuary in the nation erected to serve Christians there.

Algeria suddenly allowed Protestant missionaries back in, doing an almost 180-degree turn in the official attitude. China watchers warned against optimism that Communist China would soon do the same.

The general secretary of the All-

Africa Conference of Churches called for the abolition of Western mission boards and societies to rid the world of categories like "native," "heathen," and "pagan." A new missionary endeavor within the United Presbyterian Church sought to improve missionary outreach by the founding of Protestant Orders. Throughout 1973, Wycliffe Bible Translators recorded one new tribal language project begun every 13 days.

Missionaries were among returning Indochina POWs, including Plymouth Brethren missionaries Samuel Mattix and Lloyd Opel. Henry F. Blood, 53-year-old Wycliffe translator, had died in prison only 90 days before the war ended. C&MA Missionary Betty Mitchell kept hope alive that her husband Archie will yet be released with Dr. Eleanor Vietti and Mennonite Missionary Dan Gerber captured in 1962.

Publishing

High speed presses hummed for religious publishing in 1973, despite the twin troubles of paper shortages and postal increases. The 25th annual convention of the Evangelical Press Association was its largest.

Many magazines serving the major denominations sank deeper into production woes. Together (United Methodist Church) dropped from 650,000 to 250,000, combined with Christian Advocate and went to Reader's Digest format. The Episcopalian was threatened with extinction by rising costs and lowering circulation. Presbyterian Life and the United Church Herald combined into a single magazine titled A.D.

EPA publications enjoyed circulation increases (Decision at the top with more than 5 million). Moody Monthly climbed over 200,000. Christianity Today, Eternity and others showed significant gains.

1973 was the first year in centuries that the King James Version of the Bible dropped below sales of other editions. Top runner was The Living Bible. Kenneth Taylor's paraphrased edition — issued in many different forms, with 10,000 copies selling every 24 hours seven days a week (double at Christmas) bringing to 10 million the number of copies in print.

The complete Bible, now printed in 4,500 languages since movable-type was invented, this year was issued in picture ("Comic strip") form by David C. Cook. The Common Bible appeared as an ecumenical edition endorsed by liberal Protestants, Roman Catholics and Eastern Orthodox leaders. The New York Bible Society International issued The New International Version, marketed by Zondervan.

The Christian Booksellers Association staged a record-breaking convention with 3,004 gathered in Dallas for the annual meet. Dust of Death by Os Guinness took the top spot in Eternity's poll of reviewers and writers.

Prophetic writer Hal Lindsey rode highest in sales with The Late Great Planet Earth (5 million in print). Satan Is Alive and Well on Planet Earth (2 million in print), and There's a New World Coming (375,000 sold in three weeks of 1973).

Pointing to the eroding of press freedom in the U.S. (as revealed by a global survey of the International Press Institute), religion writers warned that Christians would be living in a dream world if they were not alert to the dangers of these infringements of basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution. IRS threats to examine financial records of some church bodies, wiretaps of church telephone lines, the illegal seizure of bank accounts of church groups disagreeing with governmental policies, the threat of withdrawing tax-exempt privileges for churches engaged in social work in 1973.

Education

Trends in all sectors of Christian education showed this arm of the church alive and growing.

Parental alarm about academic and moral laxity in public schools gave Christian schools increased enrollments.

Supporters of public education battled for legalized prayer and against parochialism. Nine "prayer bills" were introduced in Congress. The Massachusetts legislature overrode a governor's veto to make legal a period of "prayer and meditation" in public schools, but the law has not been enforced.

President Nixon led the fight for governmental aid to nonpublic schools, sending a 178-page tax-reform proposal to Congress providing income tax credit for parents paying tuition in non-public institutions. But the U.S. Supreme Court repeatedly struck down tax credits, tuition aid, and services payment provided by state laws designed to support sectarian schools. Fifty bills for parochial aid were pending in Congress by the end of the year as the issue snowballed.

More balanced instruction concerning origins (creation vs. evolution) was demanded and obtained in California, Tennessee, Wisconsin and Michigan. More than 1,000 high schools across the land offered non-devotional courses on religion. Stories persisted about "underground" prayer cells on public campuses.

The Supreme Court reinstated a North Carolina teacher fired for expressing liberal views on the inspiration of the Scriptures and for teaching there is no life after death.

Evangelism

Philosopher Will Herberg in 1973 observed that the masses want the Gospel, not social issues. Multitudes of God's servants stood ready to provide it. Billy Graham, following crusades in South Africa, Georgia, Minneapolis, Korea, Missouri, and North Carolina was so moved by evident spiritual hunger that he cancelled retirement plans to continue his demanding crusade schedule. A record crowd of 1,100,000 Koreans heard the evangelist during one meeting of his mid-year Seoul crusade. A total of 4,361,750 people heard the evangelist in 1973. Of that number 222,365 made inquiry concerning Jesus Christ.

European youth showed their colors in SPRE-E ("Spiritual Re-Emphasis") in Great Britain. South African Christians from 30 denominations assembled in Durban for the South African Congress on Mission and Evangelism. "Jews for Jesus" also developed the slogan "Christians for Moses" for fruitful evangelization among the chosen; Leighton Ford's "Reachout" series. Campus Crusade's new "Agape Movement" — 20,000 Lutheran youth at "Discovery '73" — the new "comic book" evangelism — all contributed to what Campus Crusade for Christ president Bill Bright described as "the greatest revival since Pentecost."

Early in the year, 142 church leaders of many traditions met in Los Angeles to organize the 1974 International Congress on World Evangelization to meet in Lausanne, building upon the 1966 Berlin congress and successive area meetings world wide.

Federal officials curbed the activities of Evangelist Rex Humbard for allegedly violating Securities and Exchange Commission laws by soliciting investment funds without adequate collateral and once more withheld tax-exempt status from Billy James Hargis.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith tried repeatedly to ban campus activities of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, Campus Life Clubs, Youth for Christ, Student Life, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Christian Ethics Club, Teen Challenge and Campus Crusade for Christ. Athletes in Action were thwarted during their assembly programs on campuses in Georgia and Nebraska. But the opposition was ruled out of order and

the message-in-muscle went on.

Although the klieg lights of the media have long since faded on The Jesus Movement, many Jesus People are still vigorously functioning. Some, of course, have dropped out of sight, phasing in and out with the wave of the fad. Others have meshed into more traditional evangelical ministries. But some have endured and are thriving, showing consistent, healthy growth.

Ministries have stood the test of time (a few have reached the ripe old age of 5 or 6 years now) have successfully hurdled the double barriers of quality leadership and financial support. The strongest seem to be completely — or nearly — self-supporting. In a recent assessment, Dr. Ronald M. Enroth, coauthor of The Jesus People, says: "Except for certain extremist elements, it (the Jesus Movement) has largely gone the way of a more enlightened, balanced maturation."

This includes growing interest in serious Bible study, and more involvement in the larger society, especially at college campuses. Jesus Movement publications are taking a slightly more scholarly, "academically oriented" profile, says leader Duane Pederson of Hollywood.

Another trend is the proliferation of Jesus communes, "chain" style, under central management.

Michigan State University social scientists found in surveys that younger adolescents were more attuned to religious orthodoxy than older ones. Orthodoxy, they declared, declines with age and girls are more oriented toward authority than boys.

Seventy-one percent in a Capital teen-age survey was sympathetic to religion. Throughout 1973, Jesus Christ was still the Hero at Large of the youth culture.

Broadcasting

More believers than ever in 1973 gave the winds a mighty voice. Plans were laid for a new Christian TV station in Chicago; Christian Broadcasting Network was given KXTX-TV as a gift in Dallas to add to its increasing outreach; Carl McIntire lost WXUR in Media, Pa., after the FCC ruled he had violated its fairness doctrine. The preacher took to the seas with his pirate station, "Radio Free America," but the operation was short-lived. Senator Sam Ervin, folk hero of the Watergate hearings, sided with McIntire, chiding the FCC for violating the First Amendment's guarantee of a free press.

The door opened for construction of a million-watt missionary radio station on Cyprus; Trans World Radio announced plans to raise a tower in Swaziland; Moody Bible Institute purchased Radio Station WKES in Tennessee; Canadians proposed an association of Christian broadcasters; the National Religious Broadcasters held its largest convention in Washington; the FCC gave only short-term licenses to Bob Jones U. stations; denominations launched bold media efforts, including cable transmission; the "Chapel Service of the World Radio Congregation," the nation's oldest continuous gospel broadcast, celebrated 50 years; the "Heaven and Home Hour" reached 40 with its 15,000th consecutive broadcast; radio to Russia was a particularly fruitful evangelistic medium as 1973 broadcasting covered every inch of the globe in the War of the Waves.

People

Changing hair styles carpeted the floors of barber shops, as wild styles for men turned conservative. Women succeeded in eliminating male-oriented phraseology in church constitutions. Claire Randall became the National Council of Churches' first woman chief executive officer upon her election as NCC General Secretary. More women were in theological seminaries. The first woman military chaplain was commissioned.

Pornography, Satan worship, Eastern cults, and "sexual masses" increased in 1973. A 15-year-old Guru, hailed as "the Perfect Master" who would bring a thousand years of peace, developed an ulcer on a U.S. tour and was arrested for trying to smuggle \$46,000 in contraband back into India. Deprogramming of cult victims continued apace. The energy crisis drew people closer together. The "slavery of consumerism" was despised. Biblical advice on moderation was hailed.

Americans gave generously in continued support of Managua earthquake victims. Food for the Hungry, Inc., issued a book declaring famine is upon us. United effort channeled funds to stricken African countries rimming the Southern Sahara.

Deaths

Notables who passed from the scene in 1973 were Pearl S. Buck, daughter of Presbyterian missionaries and the only American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. She died at 80. L. Nelson Bell, distinguished missionary, physician, writer, Presbyterian leader, died at 79. Addison H. Leitch, professor at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and well known writer, died at 64. Kent Sigvard Knutson, 48-year-old president of the American Lutheran Church, died of a rare disease contracted on an overseas trip. Bernice T. Cory, cofounder and Senior Vice President of Scripture Press, joined her late husband in death. E. Stanley Jones was found dead at 89, closing a long career as evangelist, missionary and author. Paul P. Fryling died unexpectedly at 61 while serving as pastor of the Minneapolis First Covenant Church. Haven of Rest's "Fleet Mate Bob," Paul Myers, passed on at 76. Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th president of the United States, died four years and two days after retirement. David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first Prime Minister, died Nov. 30 at the age of 87 in Tel Aviv.

1973 — what a year! Brigitte Bardot, a woman whose fans had seemingly given everything, announced this year she had come to "hate humanity." But plenty of people were ready to love it for Christ's sake and to serve it expensively. Repeated disappointments may have accounted for a trend toward simplicity and nostalgia. Many were ready to worship the God of this nation rather than making a god of this nation. Most were willing to admit there's a little bit of Watergate in us all. An anthropologist concluded, "Man being what he is, violence is forever."

Forever? The verse upon which the President's hand rested at his January inauguration provided a fitting reminder at year's end: "The Lord will settle international disputes; all the nations will convert their weapons of war into implements of peace. Then at the last all wars will stop and all military training will end. O Israel, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord, and be obedient to his laws!" Time passes; youth fades. Golden leaves of friendship fall. The "Blessed Hope" outlasts them all!

NYERI, Kenya — Joshua Muya, a student at Nyeri Baptist High School, recently thanked his headmaster, missionary Jay Stewart, for refusing him permission to attend a Sunday afternoon meeting of the Christian Union, an interdenominational organization for Christian students. Since requests to attend were to have been turned in the day before, Stewart didn't allow Muya to attend. On Sunday afternoon Muya found Stewart, thanked him, and explained that instead of attending, he had talked with a friend, and the friend accepted Christ as his Savior. The school's teaching staff recently named Muya as the outstanding student in the graduating class.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

"Place Your Hand In The Hand Of God"

We have entered another year. When you read this we shall already be several days into 1974. Only God knows what the new period will bring to us.

When we entered 1973, just one short twelve months ago, there was expectation and optimism, with the feeling that we had come to what might be one of the finest periods in the nation's history. The Vietnam war was over, as far as our nation was concerned, and the prisoners of war soon would be coming home. The president had just been reelected with one of the largest mandates of history, and the nation was riding what appeared to be a tide of prosperity. Prospects for world peace had not looked better in a long time. Even in the spiritual realm things were looking good, especially for Southern Baptists, for the convention had just experienced one of the best years of its history, and the opportunities never seemed greater. Truly, 1973 gave promise of being a good year.

Then the world seemed to cave in on us. Watergate and other governmental crises, economic problems and a depressed market, the Arab-Israeli war

and the continued trouble in Vietnam, the energy crisis and shortages in many fields, along with other national and world predicaments, crashed upon us and left the people confused and gasping. Most seemed to wish that the year would quickly end, for there was hope that the new one would be better.

Yet, we enter 1974 with the nation and the world facing almost insurmountable problems. Watergate has not yet been settled, although it is hoped that the worst is behind us. The energy crisis seems to have just started, and promises to get worse before it begins to get better. Peace still is a fleeting dream, and we watch with concern every report from Geneva, and from Saigon. Both internally and in world relationships our nation is confronted with dire problems, which call for the mightiest wisdom our best leaders can command. Shortages in items which have been an integral part of our daily living, are bringing drastic changes in life patterns. Even the churches are confronted with uncertainties, which only time can clarify.

It is such a year which has burst upon us, and we must find a renewed faith for facing it. We know that it is not going to be an easy year, and per-

haps not even a good one, yet we must not be afraid. Despite all disturbing conditions, we are Christians, and we still have the promises of God. With those, there is nothing to fear.

The poet, Minnie Lee Haskins, expressed the feeling which should characterize every Christian, when she wrote:

"And I said to the man
Who stood at the gate of the year:
'Give me a light that I may tread
Safely into the unknown.'
And he replied:
'Go out into the darkness
And put your hand
Into the hand of God.
That shall be to you
Better than a light
And safer than a known way.'
So I went forth
And finding the Hand of God
Trod gladly into the night.
And He led me towards the hills
And the breaking of the day
In the lone East."

How meaningful are these words!

They make us remember the words of the Psalmist:

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar, and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof" (Psa. 46:1-3).

God has not failed His own in the past. He will not fail them now!

Not one of us can know what 1974 will bring to the world, to our nation, to our churches, to our families or to ourselves, but we do know that God is on His throne, that He still rules the world, and that He still loves His children. His promises to His own will never fail.

Let us then, as we walk into 1974, put our hands "into the hands of God" that we may "tread safely into the unknown."

January Bible Study

For many years one of the most popular emphases in Southern Baptist life has been the January Bible Study. The emphasis always is on study of a portion of the Bible, and special books are prepared for each age group. Usually the study is done in a January week set aside for the classes, but other forms of study also are used, such as prayer meeting study, pulpit teaching, home classes, etc. This year, with the gasoline shortage, we have to adapt.

es will take an average of an week.

The adult and young people's book for this year relates to the New Testament book of Colossians. A splendid text book has been written, and numerous other books and materials are available. The books for the other ages also are ready.

Let churches plan now to use this emphasis, even though they may not be able to do it in the usual form. We believe you can find a way to bring this Bible study opportunity to your people.



Provided We Call upon God

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Dec. 20 Record— A Christmas Gift

Dear Sir:

I would like to congratulate you on your December 20, 1973 issue of the Baptist Record.

I stopped my housework and read all of the paper before I put it down. I plan to keep this issue and reread it when I need a spiritual lift.

This issue makes a nice Christmas gift to all of your readers.

F. Sones
19 Paradise Point Drive
Bay St. Louis, Ms. 39320

On The MORAL SCENE...

Alcohol And Stress — Question: "What about a drink for relaxation?" Answer: "Alcoholism has become a major problem. Once a drink is advocated as a means of relaxation, it opens the door for two drinks and more. I think that the mental-health profession has targeted alcoholism as really the No. 1 addictive problem — far greater than drugs." Question: "Isn't alcoholism itself sometimes an offshoot of stress?" Answer: "Oh, yes. You have stress, then tension, and then the alcohol to relieve tension, in the initial stages. Then you get into a vicious cycle where the alcohol itself produces undesirable effects, and the person starts drinking more to undo the undesirable effects."

(U.S. News and World Report, September 24, 1973)

MIGRANT LABOERS — Migrant laborers, most of whom are Spanish-speaking, share the worst living conditions of any group in the country. Among Spanish-speaking migrants, infant mortality is 125% higher than the national rate, influenza and pneumonia 200% higher, and TB and other infectious diseases 280% higher than the national rate. — (Grapevine, Vol. 4, No. 10, May, 1973)

A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Another brand new year to be lived! The years pass, and I look back unable to find a time when God's hand was not on my life. There were times when I disagreed with God in His answer to an occasional prayer, only to find later that I was wrong, and He was right, that loving, faithful wisdom of His ever working. I don't take so many things "for granted" the way I used to.

I no longer take for granted the blessing of having been born into a Christian home. For through the years I've seen others bear the anguish of having to reach convictions as adults that I was taught as a child.

I no longer take for granted the fact of having been led to Christ. For I know now that millions of eight-year-old girls do not have a pastor who is concerned about their salvation, as I had.

I no longer take for granted the very miracle of being loved. For I have seen the eyes of a friend reflect her heartbreak because of a husband's lost love.

I no longer take for granted a work to do and a place in which to do it. For I have seen circumstances work in succession to leave qualified and capable people out of work.

I no longer take for granted the physical necessities of life. For news comes to me

sons change.

I no longer take for granted the health and life of a child. For we have stood anxiously waiting for the recovery of our boys, not sure that recovery would come, but grateful that it always has.

I no longer take for granted even my sanity (I expect this will draw some interesting comment from the younger generation at our place). For I have seen dear friends lose theirs.

Many of these are things which we human beings feel we can control, thus we take them for granted. But I feel the Christian must entrust all areas of life to God and allow His hand to lead, recognizing His leadership as it is given.

God must, of necessity, lead us through the world — the stormy unsettled world — so that we may be a part of His plan. This takes a lot of trust on our part. Jeremy Taylor said it in such a pretty way, "Look at that beautiful butterfly and learn from it to trust in God. One might wonder where it could live in tempestuous nights, in the whirlwind, or in the stormy day; but I have noticed it is safe and dry under the broad leaf while rivers have been flooded and the mountain oaks torn up from their roots."

It is much easier to stay out of the world's way and not get involved, but a Christian must get involved. No matter how far I venture into involvement, I can always dart back to my broad leaf — the powerful love of God. From such a vantage point, what fear have I of a New Year? — Box 9151 — Jackson, Ms. 39206.

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Year Of Membership Emphasis

Mississippi Baptists have come to 1974, the year of Church Membership Development in their current five year emphasis.

The five years began with promotion of the Sunday School and teaching. Last year was the year of Evangelism. Next year will see accent be on Stewardship and Missions, and in 1976, the nation's bicentennial, on Christian Citizenship.

This year we are concentrating on church membership. This is not on the evangelistic effort to reach people for membership, but rather on growth and development of those who have become members of the church. While the Church Training department has much to share in the program, it is not the purpose for this to be merely a promotion of that department. Sunday School, Evangelism, and other departments are participating, because all have a share in the development and growth of church members.

At the very heart of Christian work and witness stands the New Testament church. The primary emphasis on the doctrine of the church in the New Testament is on local bodies of baptized believers. While there may be a broader meaning of the use of the word in a few verses of the Bible, as a body of Christ in heaven, it is clear that the primary use of the word by our Lord and all New Testament writers refers to a local church.

It is the local church to which Christians belong, and it is the local church where they serve and grow. This is the church which builds buildings, and provides Sunday schools, Church Training programs, and other organizations. This is the church which holds

worship services, has revivals, wins people to Christ baptizes new Christians into membership, ministers to its people, and witnesses for Christ in its community and the world. It is the local church which raises money for the Lord's work, ordains preachers, sends missionaries, and carries out Christ commission.

Moreover, it is in the local church that members grow, use their talents, share in stewardship, and join with fellow members in building the kingdom of God.

Membership in a New Testament church is not a magic experience which in some mysterious way transforms a babe in Christ into a mature, trained, useful Christian. Church members must grow, and the church is the institution which the Lord established on the earth for providing the opportunities and the instruments of that growth.

Many church members have grown very little since, as new born babes, they were received into the fellowship of the church. This should not be so. Members should mature, so that they may better serve the Lord, and fulfill His purpose for them. Spiritual growth is a major teaching of the New Testament.

Every church should join in the emphasis. Pastors should preach upon it, and church organizations should be utilized in promoting it. Every department at the Convention Board is offering its services to assist the churches in helping their members to grow spiritually in 1974.

It is a great emphasis, and should bless our whole state. Let us take advantage of it, and use it in every church.

Resolutions; Family Style

By Robert J. Hastings

As a family, we resolve:

- To save some of the best hours of the week for our home, rather than giving each other the leftovers of our busy lives.
- To look for the best in each other, and having found it, give genuine praise and encouragement, rather than harping on real or imagined faults.
- To admit our shortcomings and faults, rather than hiding our true selves behind marks of hypocrisy.
- To make truth in God a daily reality, rather than a verbal shibboleth for Sunday.
- To open our home to the lonely, the friendless, the discouraged, rather than using it as a "swap shop" for those we know will befriend us in turn.
- To fill our home with good books and magazines, wholesome television programs, and uplifting music, rather than make it a trash can for the world's smut.
- To make our home big enough (in spirit) to recognize the individuality of each family member, as well as small enough for warmth and intimacy.
- To make mealtime a refreshing stimulus for the spirit as well as food for the body.
- Most of all, to love one another, to believe in one another, to encourage one another, so that our home truly becomes a source of strength and power, and not merely a service station for minimal needs of the flesh.

DEAR DAD, THIS IS TO ANNOUNCE
MY DEATH by R. J. Kast (Banner Publishers, 1973, 32 pp.) Unusually talented writer, R. J. Kast became a first-hand authority on the world of rock music, drugs, and crime. He relates the gripping story of how this life style affected his father, destroyed his marriage, and led him to the brink of suicide.

I AM A LAMB by Geoffrey T. Bell, Illustrated by R. A. Wilkin (Pickering and Inglis Ltd., 20 Langate St., London, 30 cents) This beautiful full-color little book is a story for children, told in verse. Yet it has a message that will strike the heart of the adult, too. A little lamb grew up to be a sheep, too. A little lamb grew up to be a sheep that thought himself strong and independent. But lost and afraid, in the cold night, he learned that to stay with the shepherd Jesus was wisest and best.

We Need Each Other

By Russell McIntire

It is really strange. In this day of technology and men walking on the moon we are still centuries behind in the most fundamental yet most important relationship in life. Like Cain and Abel we have still not learned to live together as brothers. The question "Who is my neighbor" directed toward the master Teacher, is still being asked today.

It is time we learned the answer. As God told Cain, this kind of sin is like a wild beast ready to pounce on us and devour us. If we do not learn it soon it will be too late.

We have stressed differences between people — what we need to emphasize is that we are more alike than different. Paul reminded his readers very clearly that from the basic standpoint of our relationship to God, we are all the same. "There is no difference—all have sinned and come short of God's glory!" All of us need a Savior. All of us hunger and thirst, all of us suffer pain and anguish; all of us cry more frequently that we admit; all of us know that we are more than clay; that we have a desire to reach beyond our grasp. We all know that the true way of happiness is to live peaceably together, each trying to make some contribution that will benefit all.

In this day when news is bounced via satellite from continent to continent—when jet planes tie the nations together daily—when international trade is the only means of survival for us all—we need to realize that this is one world and that we need each other.

A Rockefeller Foundation report said it this way: "An American soldier wounded on a battlefield in the Far East owes his life to the Japanese scientist Kitasato, who isolated the bacillus of tetanus. A Russian soldier saved by a blood transfusion is indebted to Landsteiner, an Austrian. A German is shielded from typhoid fever by the help of a Russian, Metchnikoff. A Dutch marine in the East Indies is protected from malaria because of the experiments of an Italian, Grassi; while a British aviator in North Africa escapes death from surgical infection because a Frenchman, Pasteur, and a German, Koch, elaborated a new technique.

In peace as in war we are beneficiaries of knowledge contributed by every nation in the world. Our children are protected from diphtheria by what a Japanese and a German did; they are protected from smallpox by the work of an Englishman; they are saved from rabies because of a Frenchman; they are cured of pellagra through the researches of an Austrian. From birth to death they are surrounded by an invisible host—the spirits of men who never thought in terms of flags or boundary lines and who never served a lesser loyalty than the welfare of mankind."

FEBRUARY

MARCH

1974

PROJECT

7

APRIL

JUNE

MAY

Project 7: Read The Bible Survey Series!

NASHVILLE—PROJECT 7, a promotion plan for involving church leaders and members in reading seven of the eight volumes in the New Church Study Course Bible Survey Series, begins February, 1974, and concludes August, 1974. The Bible Survey Series provides the reader with an overview of the entire Bible. Four options for study course credits are available for reading, discussion and completion of workbook requirements. Application for study award credit should be mailed to the Church Study Course Awards Office, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn., 37204. All books are available at Baptist Book Stores.

Elizabeth Fuller Scholarship

Established By Women's Committee

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — In an effort to assist Christian women in developing their talents for the ministry, the Women's Committee of Southern Seminary has established a new annual scholarship for entering female students.

The Elizabeth Fuller Scholarship, when fully endowed, will provide a \$500 scholarship annually to a new female student entering the seminary. A permanent investment of \$10,000 is needed to make the annual scholarship a reality. Providing funds are available, the scholarship will be available for students entering in the fall of 1974.

Elizabeth Fuller, a native of South Carolina, is the wife of the late Ellis Fuller, past president of Southern Seminary and former pastor of Atlanta's 100 year - old First Baptist Church. Mrs. Fuller was named the first executive secretary of the Women's Committee in 1961.

The Women's Committee hopes to sponsor more than one scholarship in the future. For each additional \$10,000 received in the scholarship fund another \$500 scholarship will be awarded by the committee.

Contributions to the Elizabeth Fuller Scholarship fund may be sent to the Treasurer's Office, 2625 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky. 40206.

Year-Round Training Is Bob Boyd's Goal

NASHVILLE — Responsibility to provide for Southern Baptists year-round training centers where they can meet and learn from denominational leaders is the primary task for Bob Boyd.

"Conference center training centers bring every aspect of denominational life to one place," Boyd says, "for interchange and unifying. People from all walks of Southern Baptist life develop unity through exchange of ideas. Conference centers provide an opportunity for Baptists to come under the influence of outstanding national and denominational leaders."

Boyd oversees the operation of Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Centers. Ridgecrest Conference Center includes camps Ridgecrest for boys and Crestridge for girls, ages 8 to 17.

Year-round operation was emphasized in the summer of 1972 when the trustees of the Sunday School Board voted to change the names of Ridgecrest and Glorieta from assemblies to conference centers.

During the nine months from September to May last year there were 20,000 registrants, which indicates the growing interest of Southern Baptists to train year-round.

During the summer of 1972 the combined registration of Ridgecrest and Glorieta Conference Centers was over 50,000, not including a summer staff in excess of 800 which augments a permanent staff of 34.

Boyd came to the Board in 1958 as a consultant in the church recreation department from South Main Baptist Church, Houston, where he had served four years as recreation director. In 1962 he became secretary of the church recreation department, where



Bob Boyd is pictured with his wife Lila, daughters Allison and Shannon, and the family cat, Jon-Jon.

he stayed until 1971, when he became director of the conference center division.

A native of Kentucky, he was graduated from Murray State College, Ky., in 1951, with a B.S. degree. In 1952 he received an M.S. degree from Indiana University in recreation administration, and in 1954 earned an M.R.E. degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville.

He was editor of "Church Recreation Magazine" from 1962-1971, and is the author of "Recreation for Churches."

Boyd and his wife Lila were married in 1952. They have two children: Allison, 13, and Shannon, 11. Jon-Jon, a siamese cat, is included in the family picture, but is just a good friend. Last year registrants came to Glo-

rieta and Ridgecrest from all 50 states, and numerous foreign countries to participate in intensified training.

"Because of the significance and influence of the Baptist Sunday School Board throughout the world," Boyd explained, "I am continually grateful to the Lord that I am allowed to serve here."

"I enjoy coming to work every day," he continued, "because of the challenge of the job and the simple pleasure of working with the leadership and staff of this institution."

Boyd concluded that he "did not believe there was another business anywhere with the magnitude of the Board that can approach the genuine fellowship among the personnel."

During war starting in 1812, British forces, under the command of Lord Cornwallis, were forced to withdraw. Bombardment of Fort Mifflin on night of Sept. 13-14, 1814, inspired composition of "The Star Spangled Banner" by Francis Scott Key, an eyewitness.

Southern France was invaded by Allied forces on Aug. 15, 1944. They fought between Marseilles and Nice and fought up the Rhone River Valley toward armies in the north. French Second Armored Division entered Paris on the 25th.

The quietest affair in the life of the average family is dad's birthday.

Talk Back Results In Changes, Improvements

By Baptist Press

Editors of 78 Southern Baptist publications got the advice they sought and began to make changes as a result of "Operation Talk Back," a survey launched two years ago to determine viewpoints and reactions of Southern Baptists.

Questionnaires were placed in the April - May - June (1971) issues of the periodicals, published by the Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commissions and Woman's Missionary Union.

The Sunday School Board reported that readers returned more than 61,000 questionnaires. A majority of the responses indicated Southern Baptists wanted changes in format, an increase in biblical content, more help for small churches and more emphasis on witnessing to non-believers.

Operation Talk Back recommended that the board explore ways of making leaders more aware of curriculum options a quarter in advance. Readers also wanted identification of the age group on periodical covers and improvement of the arrangement of content. They also expressed overwhelming appeal for more use of color.

The Woman's Missionary Union said that while the findings did "help shape up its programs and materials

they did not reflect the need for major changes."

"We're trying to do little things all along in all our materials to make them more acceptable," said June Whitlow, director of WMU's education division. "Several extensive adjustments were made in the teaching materials in some magazines. Other than this, Talk Back assured us that we are on the right track in our programs and materials."

A Brotherhood Commission spokesman in Memphis said the questionnaire results "validated improvements the Brotherhood Commission made in its periodicals for Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador boys when it entered the 1970s."

In Nashville, a Sunday School Board spokesman said, "We have always been responsive to suggestions of users of our materials. Operation Talk Back has given us the most specific guidance yet in making improvements."

"Since findings of the survey were compiled two years ago, the Sunday School Board has made noticeable improvements in periodicals for Sunday School, church training, church administration, church library, church recreation, national student ministries and church music," the spokesman said.

Content and layout of Sunday School Board curriculum materials have received the most significant

changes. All publications have been restructured to speak more clearly to the age group for which they are intended, and periodicals contain improved layout and design, seeking especially to make them more legible for senior adults and children, according to board spokesmen.

Also, they report, illustrations will be more appropriate and realistic. A larger type - face for easier readability is being used in certain publications.

As recommended by respondents to Talk Back, Sunday School Board magazines such as The Deacon, Church Recreation, Proclaim and Media Library Services Journal contain more "how-to-do-it" articles. These magazines will also run shorter articles.

In accordance with returned questionnaires, children's curriculum materials feature different stories for Sunday School and church training. Sunday School Board editors more carefully select Bible stories with less repetition, and stories about biblical events have been shortened and pupil activities added. Other innovations include printed pronunciations of biblical names and difficult words.

As for ministering to non-believers, Sunday School board publications now give more pre-eminence to biblical context and more aid to teachers in guiding older children to Christ.

Strong emphasis has in the past and will continue to be given to promotion of daily Bible readings.

Questionnaires returned to Birmingham indicated that WMU directors tend to be older women. Now, through Woman's Missionary Union publications, younger women are being encouraged to become directors.

Organizational manuals will be revised to a more simplified, conversational, illustrated style to encourage more wide-spread use by officers and leaders, WMU leaders report.

WMU magazines, such as Royal Service, for Baptist Women, Contempo, for Baptist Young Women, and Dimension, the overall magazine for WMU officers, are giving more attention to the small WMU organizations as a result of Operation Talk Back.

Changes in Royal Service include more use of the Bible in study sessions, simplified writing, more human interest and addition of learning suited for only a few categories of people.

Accent, the WMU's publication for girls in grades 7-12, includes a new format and more color and illustrations. Reading material has been adjusted to accommodate younger girls in that group, as well as the older ones.

Start, the WMU's magazine for preschool leaders, has become more missions-oriented.

Tennessee Layman Enters New World Of Non-Readers

By Tim Fields

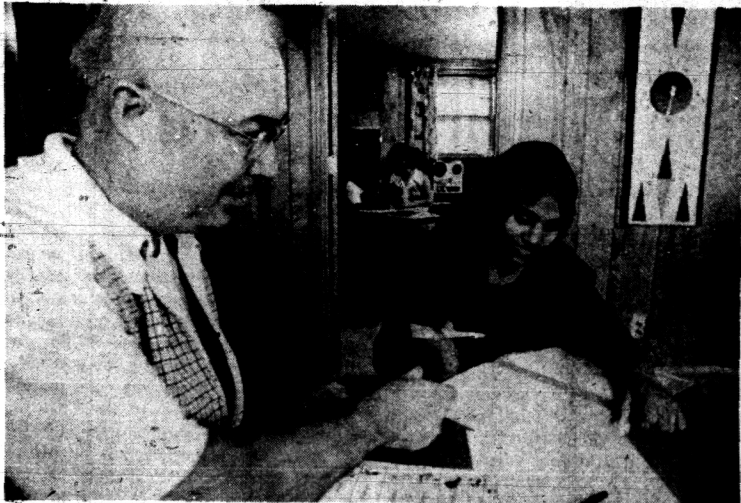
KINGSPORT, Tenn. (BP) — Nick Deskins, a shift worker at a paper plant here, "jumped at the chance" to learn to teach non-readers because he "always had a real feeling for people who couldn't read."

And in the process, Deskins, who completed a Southern Baptist Home Mission Board course in literacy training, opened up two new worlds: the limited world of non-readers and his own concept of how to help others solve their problems.

But he had to wait nearly a year to put into practice what he had learned in the 32-hour course, which equipped him to teach adult non-readers how to read and international how to speak English.

"I couldn't go up to people and start asking them whether or not they could read, so I just had to wait," Deskins recalled.

"One day I received a call from Dan Fowler, a deacon at the First Baptist Church where I'm a member.



TENNESSEE'S TUTORING LAYMAN: Nick Deskins, (left), a shift worker at the Mead Paper plant in Kingsport, Tenn., is about as involved in helping people in the name of Christ as any layman can be. Here, he teaches an Indian lady, Sargajini Jahnir, to read English while his wife tutors another Indian lady in the background. He also is involved as an associate probation officer for the General Sessions Court in Kingsport, a state Brotherhood officer, a regional Royal Ambassador coordinator, a leader in conducting lay evangelism schools, and a leader of leadership training courses in all phases of Brotherhood work. (BP) Photo by Steve Wall

I was thrilled when he said 'Nick I think I've found your first student.'"

Deskins' new pupil proved to be a real test of literacy training.

"Claude Bainer was not only an adult non-reader, but he had a mental disability because of epilepsy."

"Bainer frequently shopped at the Woolworth's store which Fowler manages," Deskins related.

One day he asked Fowler the price of a certain item in the store.

"The price is right there above the shelf," Fowler told him. Bainer hesitated for a few minutes and then replied, "Could you tell me what it says? I can't read."

Fowler immediately asked Bainer if he would like to learn how to read. "When he said yes Fowler called me," Deskins said.

Shortly after Deskins began his twice weekly sessions with Bainer, he realized his new student would probably never read fluently because of his disability.

"Nevertheless, he learned quickly those first few weeks," Deskins pointed out. "Clyde was an extreme introvert who lived with his parents. I had to pry every word out of him."

As weeks passed, Deskins' student learned how to read price labels and street signs and could stumble through passages in the Lambach Skill Book 1.

"When Clyde reached his learning capacity in reading and writing, I forgot about attempting to teach him to read and I just tried to be his friend," the layman said.

Through Deskins' suggestions, Clyde began attending a neighborhood church.

"He never attended church with me because I lived so far away," Deskins explained.

"During our weekly sessions I tried to share my faith in Christ with Clyde and he assured me he knew the Lord. In spite of Clyde's limited reading level, our friendship seemed to draw him out of his shell. He went and purchased a new desk, a bunch of new pencils and numerous note books."

"Between sessions Clyde would copy the animal figures used to teach the alphabet in the workbooks. I'd come for his lesson and notice that he'd filled 50 to 60 pages with figures of birds and animals from the books," Deskins said.

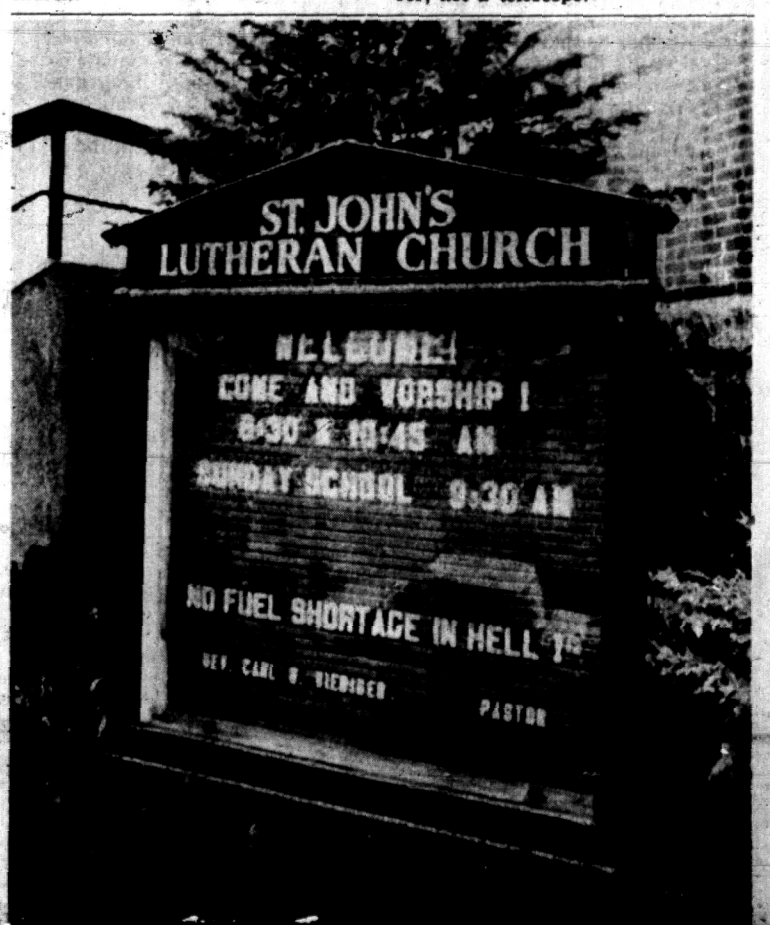
"At least this interest gave him something new in his extremely limited world. I began taking Clyde with me when I went downtown, and he always made a point to read all the

price-signs he saw in the stores," Deskins said.

"Every time Clyde went to town he would buy 40 or 50 new pencils and more note pads. He was so excited about being able to put a pencil in his hand and use it that he'd buy every one or pencil he could find," Deskins said. "I finally had to tell Clyde if he didn't stop he'd own every pencil in town."

His experience with Bainer opened up a whole new concept of ministry for Deskins, who also serves as a volunteer associate probation officer in his county and is actively involved in Brotherhood work with Baptist Men and Royal Ambassador boys in his church.

The bank of friendship cannot exist for long without deposits. Fame is chiefly a matter of dying at the right time. When looking for faults, use a mirror, not a telescope.



Could Be Worse

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. — While people are having a rough time adjusting to the fuel shortage, this sign reminds them that things could be worse. Rev. Carl Wiediger took advantage of the announcement board of his New Britain, Conn., church to remind passersby of one place where there's no energy crisis. — (RNS Photo).

SCOTTISH BAPTISTS REPORT FIRST MEMBERSHIP GAIN IN 15 YEARS

GLASGOW (RNS)—The number of Baptists in Scotland has increased for the first time in 15 years, according to a report submitted to the annual assembly of the Scottish Baptist Union.

According to the figures, membership in Scottish Churches totaled 16,419 in 1972 and this year rose by 56 to 16,475. Baptisms also increased from 289 to 532.

Commenting on the figures, the Rev. Tom Houston, a Baptist clergyman who is also director of communications for the British and Foreign Bible Society, gave Scottish Baptists praise and encouragement when he spoke of their efforts to combat the national decline in church membership.

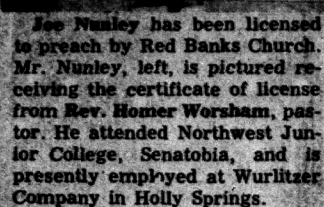
No one is working harder and coming nearer to halting the downward trend in statistics than Scottish Baptists," he said.

100 Names In The News



Four Mississippi College students captured top honors during competition at the recent Mississippi Music Teachers Association Convention. Seated are Doug Felt (left), Brandon, third place winner in the voice concerto contest, and Keith Lang, Magnolia, first place winner in the piano concerto contest. Standing are Sue Felt (left), Greenwood, second place winner in the voice concerto, and Betty Schmidt, McComb, second place finisher in the piano solo contest. Lang is the first Mississippi College student to ever win a first place in the piano concerto. (M. C. Photo by Bill Strange)

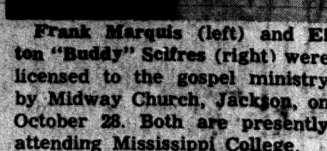
Oakland Church (Yalobusha) recently ordained Millard Caulder to the gospel ministry. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Caulder and is a sophomore at Clarke College. Millard serves as pastor of the Bluff Springs Church in Choctaw Association. Rev. Buford Sellers is Oakland pastor.



Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Harper, Jr., missionaries to Colombia on furlough, may be addressed at 749 Reading Rd., Mason, Ohio, 45040. Before they were appointed he was pastor of Bethel Church, Liberty, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Major C. McDaniel Jr., newly-employed missionary associates to Korea, have completed orientation and after Dec. 31 may be addressed c/o Baptist Mission, IPO 1361, Seoul 100, Korea. Before they were appointed he was music director, First Church, Natchez.

Pat McLellan, son of Mrs. Marvin McLellan and the late Marvin McLellan, was licensed to preach Sunday, Dec. 9, in First Church, Durant. Rev. Ed McDaniel, pastor, made some interesting remarks to Pat before turning the service over to him. Mrs. Pat McLellan, the former Carol Carr, was baptized at the close of the service. Pat and Carol are students at Clarke College.



Both are presently attending Mississippi College.

The Midway pastor is Rev. W. Benton Preston. Rev. Jim Thrash is leaving the pastorate of Friendship Church in Columbus (Lowndes) to assume the pastorate of Trinity Church, El Dorado, Arkansas. During his 2½ year ministry the church added more than 100 members and the church budget more than doubled. In the last six months two buses were purchased for a bus ministry and a building program was approved to add needed educational space. The Thrashes may be contacted at 1400 Trinity Street, El Dorado, Arkansas, 71730.

Two William Carey College music majors placed high in state competition at the Mississippi Music Teachers Association's annual meeting at Millsaps College in Jackson. Mike Mitchell, of Greenville, placed first in the sophomore voice solo division; he was accompanied by Patti Stribling, Harry Carter, III of Bonneau Beach, South Carolina, placed third in the collegiate vocal solo division junior - senior division.

Rev. Wesley Pitts, formerly of Zion Community of Pontotoc County, has recently accepted the pastorate of First Church, Collierville, Tenn., moving there from a similar position at West Shiloh Church, Stantonville, Tenn. During three years he was at West Shiloh, the church built a new educational unit, total receipts almost doubled, mission offerings more than doubled, and there were 64 additions to the church, 50 by baptism. For three years he was Sunday School director of the McNairy Association. He was a member of the McNairy County Welfare Advisory Board, the McNairy General Hospital Chaplain staff, and served as President of the Adamsville Ministerial Association.

He is married to the former Diane Clingan also of Zion Community. They are the parents of a son, Michael Stephen. Pitts is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and Southwestern Seminary. He formerly served as pastor of First Church, Prairie, Miss., and Macedonia Church, Pontotoc.

John Sawyer, a consultant in the Sunday School department of the Alabama Baptist Convention, executive board has been named director - elect of the board's church training department. Sawyer, 37, came to the Sunday School department two years ago after serving 12 years as pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Vincennes, Ind.

David B. Hazelwood has accepted the position of consultant, new work development, in national student ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board.



He is a graduate of William Carey College. His wife holds a B.M. degree from Oklahoma Baptist University. Mr. Lee is originally from Hattiesburg. His wife, originally from Indianapolis, Ind., has attended both Southern Seminary and New Orleans Seminary while Mr. Lee has attended New Orleans Seminary. Mr. Lee comes from Bayou Church in Slidell, Louisiana where he was minister of music and youth. Rev. Marcus Finch is pastor at Richton.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. (Mike) Newton, newly-appointed missionaries to Korea, have completed orientation and after Dec. 31 may be addressed c/o Baptist Mission, IPO 1361, Seoul 100, Korea. She was born in Hattiesburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Smothers, missionaries to Paraguay, have completed language study and after Dec. 19 may be addressed at Casilla 1171, Asuncion, Paraguay. Before they were appointed in 1972, he was pastor of Concord Church, Pelahatchie, Miss.



Graduate of Clarke and William Carey Colleges and New Orleans Seminary, he formerly served as pastor of Leaf and Unity Churches (Greene); Big Level, Wiggins; and Woolmarket, Biloxi. He is married to the former Faye Hennis of Vinegar Bend, Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Perry are shown above.

Miss Cornelia Leavell, missionary to Hong Kong, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 208 S. Washington Ave., Starkville, Miss.). The daughter of missionaries, she was born in Tsangwa (formerly Wuchow), Kwangsi Province, China.

John R. Chandler has been promoted to supervisor of the church music promotion section in the church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. The promotion section originated out of a recent reorganization of the church music department that combined all field services in one section, making it possible for one person in the church music department to coordinate all details encompassed in the planning of special events.

SBC Foundation Reports Record Earnings In '73 Category 63 Training Awards For 1972-73 In State Revealed

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foundation had a record year of earnings in fiscal 1973 and topped the \$14 million mark in total trust corpus value, Kendall Berry, executive secretary-treasurer of the foundation told the board of directors in their annual meeting here.

In his report to the board, Berry said the corpus value at the end of the fiscal year, September 30, for the benefit of Southern Baptist causes and annuants under contract, was \$14,216,844, with earnings (collective income) reaching a record \$700,104 exclusive of any capital gains.

The foundation "has made significant progress during this past year, in spite of 'economic uncertainties' and 'money problems' in the world, Berry said.

Some \$1,796,873 was received in cash and securities for investment during the fiscal year, he said. "Due to withdrawals of \$1,067,385 and depreciation in the market (value) of \$180,210, we still ended up with a net increase of \$332,722."

Berry continued, "Even though monetary progress (the past year) has left much to be desired, the record of Southern Baptists during fiscal year 1973... looks much better than comparable foundation funds or even in comparison to the stock market averages."

"The Southern Baptist Foundation continues in a strong position and

need not worry too much about fluctuations in the market," he said.

The foundation will "likely continue its conservative approach" in investments until a more firm basis can be seen for an optimism by most economists that "when something develops to restore confidence in government and the American way of life, the next rise could be dramatic," Berry added.

Mrs. E. W. Bess Jr., administrative assistant for the foundation, in the financial review for the board, reported that the general fund (the largest administered and invested by the foundation) reached a total \$10,222,237 for the year, up slightly over fiscal 1972 and earning an average rate of return of 5.43 percent, also up slightly.

Berry said earnings for the year were due largely to high interest rates on certificates of deposit and earnings from high-yielding short term commercial paper (income producing securities).

Stirton Oman, a Nashville construction company executive, was re-elected president of the foundation's board and chairman of its executive committee.

John O. Ellis, a Nashville banker, whose board title was changed from secretary to recording secretary, was also re-elected.

G. Frank Cole, a Nashville banker, was elected vice president to succeed Nashville businessman L. B. Stevens.

In other business the board clarified its bylaws on membership and gave the foundation president authority to appoint board committees and delegate authority to them, subject to its executive committee's approval.

Membership on the board of directors includes: the president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) as an ex-officio member; 15 Baptist laymen, 11 of whom live in or near Nashville; a member from the Southern Baptist Executive Committee; one member from each of the four general SBC boards and each of the six seminaries; one from each of the SBC's seven commissions and the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU); and a member from the board of such other agencies the SBC may recognize as entitled to membership.

Retirement age for both men and women foundation staff members was set at 65, subject to an annual waiver by the board for individual staff members. Previous retirement was set at 70 for men and 65 for women. The previous policy on retirement actually "discriminated against the women," Berry said.

Berry, who will be 67 in April, 1974, was re-elected by the board for an additional year, as was Mrs. Bess. The four women on the five-member foundation staff are all considerably younger than 65.

Board members paid tribute to the late Charles Houston Bolton, first full time executive secretary of the foundation from 1949-53, who died in November in Thomasville, Ga.

Besides Bolton's death, Berry recalled, the late J. W. Stoner, execu-

In first major offensive against Japan, U.S. Marines landed on Guadalcanal in Solomon Island, on Aug. 7, 1942. Battles continued for six months with final U.S. victory on February 9, 1943.

Women finally got the vote when the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified on Aug. 26, 1920.

utive secretary-treasurer of the foundation from 1956-67, died in 1970. The late Folk Lambert, a former member of the board of directors, died in 1971, and T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary - treasurer of the foundation from 1953-56, died in 1972, Berry said.

Blue Mountain Evening Classes For Next Semester

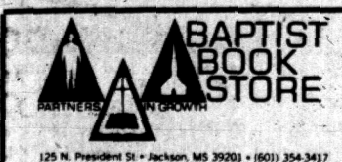
Blue Mountain College announces its evening classes for the Spring semester of the 1973-74 academic session which are scheduled to begin on January 14, 15 and 17, 1974 and run until April 29 and 30 and May 2. Courses will be taught on the campus in Blue Mountain on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 until 9:30. Registration will take place for these courses January 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Admission to the evening classes is open to anyone 18 years of age or over. High school seniors who have at least a B average and the approval of their principal will also be admitted. Courses offered on Monday evenings are: Old Testament, Elementary Typewriting, Advanced Typewriting, Introduction to Counseling, Western Civilization, and American Government.

Those offered on Tuesday evenings are: Painting and Composition, Fundamentals of Music, and General Biology.

On Thursday evenings New Testament is offered. Private instruction in organ, piano and voice is also offered, with time and place to be arranged.

For further information contact: Dean, Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Mississippi 38610. Telephone number 685-8711.



Church	Association	Credits	Rank
Pearson, Jackson	Union County	154	2
First, New Albany	Hinds-Marion	154	2
Byram Baptist, Jackson	Copiah	126	4
First, Crystal Springs	Hinds-Madison	120	5
Southside, Jackson	Jones	117	6
First, Ellisville	Copiah	111	7
First, Hazlehurst	Jackson	94	8
Calvary, Pascagoula	Attala	86	9
Parkway, Kosciusko	Simpson	83	10
Goodwater, Magee	Hinds-Madison	81	11
Westview, Jackson	Lebanon	80	12
Main Street, Hattiesburg	Jackson	76	13
Unity First Baptist, Pascagoula	Alcorn	72	14
Calvary, Corinth	Hinds-Madison	70	15
Calvary, Jackson	Lebanon	67	16
First, Hattiesburg	Jones	65	17
First, Laurel	Simpson	65	17
First, Magee	Wayne	63	19
Calvary, Waynesboro	Scott	61	20
First, Morton	Pontotoc	60	21
First, Pontotoc	Grenada	57	22
First, Grenada	Union County	54	23
Northside, New Albany	Pontotoc	50	24
Zion, Pontotoc	Hinds-Madison	50	24
Parkway, Jackson			

Credit Card Giving Launched By Church

BUFFALO, N. Y. (EP)—A Roman Catholic church here has started accepting credit cards in lieu of cash donations.

The Church of the Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary launched the plan as a means of increasing its income. Paul Totaro, a member of the finance committee, said credit cards aid parishioners in budgeting fixed amounts for church contributions.

Life is a bundle of little things and the string is always coming untied. Luck is always against the man who depends on it.

Of course the truth hurts. Particularly on the bathroom scales. The trouble with a budget is that it won't budge.

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"I don't need a will," declared Gary Stokes as he and his fellow church member, Vernon Collins, an attorney, discussed the sermon their pastor had just preached on the stewardship of accumulated possessions. "I have very little," he continued, "and anyway, the law will take care of the distribution of my property." "Yes, Gary," interrupted Vernon, "the law will distribute your property, but in all likelihood, it would not satisfy you if you were there to witness it. And furthermore, Gary, your estate is probably larger than you think. To arrive at the net value of your estate, you should include your life insurance, your profit sharing benefits, stocks, bonds, and real estate, along with checking and savings accounts and other personal property."

"And another thing," continued Vernon, "if you die without leaving a will, you make no definite provisions for your minor children. And, what about your support of the causes of Christ? Without a Christian will, the Lord's work cannot be included in your estate plans. So, why not take advantage of your right to decide exactly what will be done with your property after you are gone?"

Gary was silent for a moment and then thoughtfully answered, "I get the point, Vernon. I now see that I have both the right and the responsibility to have my will prepared. I'll discuss the matter with my wife, secure professional assistance, and take care of this important matter very soon."

How about you, DO YOU HAVE A WILL? Why wait? Time won't.

Your Baptist Foundation representative will be happy to discuss with you your desire to Live the Word Through Christian Estate Planning.

Please send literature and/or information on

- ☐ Christian estate planning.
- ☐ making a Christian will.
- ☐ setting up a living trust.
- ☐ I would appreciate a visit from a Foundation representative (without cost or obligation).

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION
Rev. Carey E. Cox, Executive Secretary
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CITY

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Bread For The Hungry

By Clifton J. Allen
John 5

The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand was recorded by each of the four Gospels. However, the



Gospel of John alone records the discourse of Jesus that followed interpreting the meaning and significance of the miracle. The miracle itself and the teaching of Jesus set forth a large number of truths which are central and basic in the revelation of the Fourth Gospel. Christ is Lord over the things of nature. Christ is concerned about the physical life and the needs of human beings. Christ himself is the answer to the needs of persons on the deepest levels of experience. People are often blinded by material concerns and hence robbed of the insights and blessings of Christian experience. The faith and loyalty of Christians are always being tested by the pressures of unbelievers.

The Lesson Explained
A Miracle And A Sign.
The Gospel writer reports the miracle in simple terms (see vv. 1-21). Multitudes followed Jesus, motivated in part by curiosity, especially in his miracles of healing. This was the

time of his greatest popularity with the crowds. At the end of a day of teaching and healing, he took a boy's lunch, surely willingly given, because of the boy's admiration of Jesus, and caused the five loaves and two fish to be multiplied adequately to feed five thousand men, besides women and children. The crowds were captured by enthusiasm. They saw in Jesus "that prophet," and they wanted to take him by force and make him king. Jesus resisted the temptation to accept their wish, doubtless pressed hard on him by Satan, quickly dismissed the crowds, and withdrew into the hills to pray. The next day, in the synagogue, he taught them about the food that endures to eternal life. The miracle had satisfied physical hunger, but it was chiefly a sign to point to the provision God had made in Jesus for the life of the world.

The Bread Of Life
Verses 35-40

This bread is different. It does not have to be eaten over and over. When received by faith, it satisfied hunger forever and quenches thirst forever. In other words, one receives the Bread of life through a relationship with Christ that means eternal life. It is foolish for people to be preoccupied with life on the physical plane to the neglect of life on the spiritual plane. Jesus had come from

heaven to bring God to man and to bring new life to the world. Divine sovereignty and human freedom were both involved. All who believe in Christ are the Father's gift to the Son. No one will be rejected, and no one will be lost of those willing to come to the Son and receive him. The keeping power of Christ means assurance of eternal life. To see in Christ the revelation of God and to believe in him as the Savior sent from God means to be joined with him in the life of God forever.

The Necessity for Faith
Verses 41-51

The claim of Jesus to be the Bread of life was declarative of his nature and his life-giving power. His hearers in the synagogue responded with murmuring and unbelief. They accounted for him in human terms alone, nothing more than the son of Mary and Joseph, unwilling to recognize the evidence that he was the Son of God. Jesus rebuked them for their murmuring and their unbelief. No one could come to Jesus unless drawn to him by the Father. God takes the initiative; salvation is the result of grace. God sent Jesus to be the Savior of men. His very presence on earth was God's supreme effort to draw men to himself by drawing them to Christ. If men had been willing to hear and believe, they would have been drawn to the Son.



Young Adults To Sing In Premiere

The Young Adults Ensemble from First Church, Columbia, composed of six married couples, will be featured in the premiere production of "I'm Here—God's Here, Now We Can Start" at Columbia High School Auditorium for two nights—January 4 and 5. Tickets are free but must be secured in advance by calling or writing Billy Jack Green, Box 543, Columbia, Miss. 39429 (736-2608). Dr. Howard Aultman is pastor.

THE BAPTISM

The public ministry of Jesus began that day when he appeared near the Jordan and submitted himself to John for baptism. Of course, John vigorously protested. But Jesus insisted.

The baptism of Jesus did not have the same meaning for him as it does for us, since he had no confession of sin to make or necessity for bearing witness to the experience of a new way of life. (1) It was a moment of decision. For thirty years he had been getting ready to do what His Father had sent him to do. Now he had realized that John was the forerunner and the time was now to answer the summons and the challenge of God. (2) It was a moment to approve John's ministry. In effect, Jesus was saying, I agree with your message and your insistence to show your thoughts in action like baptism. (3) It was the endorsement of baptism as an ordinance. Because of his baptism, his words were more meaningful when he called for the disciples to "teach all nations and baptize them." (4) It was a moment of approval by the Father.

John saw the approval of God and realized his purpose had been fulfilled. Jesus heard the words, "Thou art my beloved son in whom I am well pleased." Jesus knew from that moment that he was the Servant of the Lord. The presence of the Spirit was to be his aid.

THE TEMPTATION

From the triumphant moment, God led his Son to wrestle with Satan to convince Satan that nothing would thwart the Saviour in his purpose. Why was he tempted? The temptations were proof of Jesus' real humanity and the victory over Satan was a proof of his deity. This was not the only time that Jesus faced temptation. Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus is being continually in conflict with Satan and his representatives—demons.

Most of the time Satan attempts to attack us after a spiritual victory. Too often we think too much about our victories and too little about who won. Now who do you think Jesus is? Are you equipped to present him to others? This study should open our eyes for personal affirmance and commitment. We will love him more; the more we know about him.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Christ Is Lord

Mark 1:1-15
By Bill Duncan

Who is Jesus? Is it true what they say about you? These questions might sound modern, but they are not unique to our generation. Toward the end of the life time of the Twelve, there arose a need to answer these questions that skeptics were asking.

Early Christian tradition claimed that Mark was the author of this gospel that we shall study for the next four months. The book of Acts calls him John Mark in connection with his travels with Barnabas and Paul. Most people remember him as the young minister that got homesick on the first missionary journey and went home. But remember he returned to service, causing Paul and Barnabas to choose other partners (Acts 15:37-38). In II Timothy 4:11 Paul praises Mark as "being profitable to me for the ministry." It is believed that Mark was perhaps still more influenced and instructed by the apostle Peter, possibly in Rome (I Peter 5:13). Christian writers went as far as to say that much of Mark's Gospel is a reproduction of the sermons which Peter preached in his last days in Rome. He certainly vindicated his earlier error.

Before we study this book of the Bible we need to know the purpose for which it was written. Since Mark's Gospel was the first story of Jesus to be written it is easy to surmise the purpose. Surely by conviction he was led by the Holy Spirit to reproduce a dependable and authentic written record of the life and work of his Lord for the edification and instruction of the Christian of his day and especially those Christians in and around

Rome! Up to the time of Mark's Gospel, oral tradition preserved the wonderful stories of Jesus, but they would have undergone change and distortion in the constant retelling.

The simple narrative account of Mark's Gospel tells about what Jesus did to show who he was. He leaves no doubt that he believed Jesus to be the divine Son of God. At the same time, the sheer humanity of Jesus in Mark's picture of Him brings Him very near to us.

Barclay is right when he calls Mark's "the essential gospel." Since all but twenty verses are included in either Matthew or Luke. These three are called synoptic gospels since they see things from the same viewpoint but Matthew and Luke write with different purposes using essential material of Mark but expanding to tell other events and discourses.

THE BEGINNING

Mark starts the story of Jesus a long way back. The story of Jesus did not begin with His own birth upon earth. It did not begin with the emergence of John the Baptist in the wilderness. But as the whole Bible declares, Jesus was "In the Beginning." Jesus Christ began in the heart of God.

What is the gospel? Mark did not feel that his readers needed a definition, for the whole story of Jesus is the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ the Lord. His deeds and words are the evidence that God's reign was now present on the plane of history. The essential salvation for all mankind was centered in who Jesus was.

To the followers of Jesus, the good news meant that God had fulfilled his ancient promises through the prophets by sending his Son into the world.



Richardson



Munn



Watkins



Allen



Newell

10 Get Degrees From Seminary

Ten Mississippi students received degrees during winter commencement exercises at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Church, Pensacola, Florida, presented the commencement address.

Mississippi Students receiving degrees were: Master of Religious Education: Russell Herrington of Louisville; Kenneth Smith, Jr. of Starkville; Master of Church Music: Thomas McNeil of Moss Point; Ricky Munn of Meridian; Master of Divinity: Barry Allen of Grenada; Franklin Lambert of Hattiesburg; Robert Newell of Meridian; A. Ronald Richardson of Anguilla; Randy Smith of Jackson; Thomas Watkins of Corinth. Five are pictured. Other pictures were unavailable.

Defeat isn't bitter if you don't swallow it.
Much gossip that is aired should also be fumigated.

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Banks Accept Post At SBC Agency

DALLAS, Nov. 30 — Bob Banks, director of the Brotherhood Department for Oklahoma Baptists, Friday was elected an executive assistant at the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.



In a special meeting here, the board of the agency selected Banks, 42, to direct Brotherhood planning and promotional efforts for the United States.

Agency Executive Director Glen-

don McCullough said Banks, a professional Brotherhood field worker for 23 years, will concentrate on working with state Brotherhood leaders to start Brotherhood units in Southern Baptist churches.

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Devotional

Ring In The New

By Earl Kelly, executive secretary
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Imagine New Year's Eve without bells! We shall never know—certainly not on earth—who produced the very first bell; his name is lost in antiquity.

We do know, however, that the inventor lived long ago because we read about bells in the book of Exodus. God gave Moses minute instructions regarding the holy garments to be worn by his brother, the first high priest: "And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about" (Ex. 28:33).

Bells have always been associated with proclamations as they are today. Just as the bell on our alarm clock proclaims the end of night and the beginning of a new day—a time of activity, the ringing of bells on New Year's Eve announces the beginning of a new era—a time of activity.

Any new year presents us with the fears of uncertainty and the challenges of change. 1974 is no exception. Many crises will stare us in the face during the new year if the times are consistent with the past. There will be the energy crises, moral crises, and only heaven knows what else. The remarkable thing about being a Christian is that we are not controlled by CHRONOS (consecutive time), but by KAIROS (time touched by eternity).

Many a new year ushered in crisis situations for the early Christians. How did they manage to get through their age of anxiety? As James Reid has put it, "They got through it all because they saw through it all. They saw through it to another world." They believed that the God who made life intended for it to be lived for the glory of Christ, and that the Holy Spirit offered them the assistance to do just that. The Spirit has always guided God's children over uncertain paths and he guides just one day at a time. As D. T. Niles once wrote: "It is the devil who indulges men's desires to see the whole road ahead; he hides only the precipice at the end of the road."

Tennyson loved bells and in his In Memoriam has written much upon which we might meditate, especially as the bells ring in the new year:

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.
Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Amidst the sound of the ringing of the bells, many Mississippi Baptists open the door of the new year with high heart and confident expectancy, certain that he who has walked with us through the years that are gone has new and richer treasures to disclose to us in 1974.

Dallas Atheist Fined For Church Trespass

DALLAS, Tex. (EP)—Jack Cody, popular atheist here, was fined \$100 in municipal court for "criminally trespassing" on the property of First Baptist Church here.

Cody, a fixture at City Council meetings for the past 12 months, was arrested in the downtown sanctuary on Sunday morning when he turned up wearing only a bathrobe and stocking cap. He told officials of the church he was against their broadcasting sermons weekly on the municipally owned WRR radio station.

Assistant Pastor Melvin Carter told a six-man court jury that Cody seemed bent on disrupting services.

"We didn't know what he was going to do," Mr. Carter said. "But he was causing a scene in the lobby."

Off The Record

Art? No Deal!

A wealthy oilman returning from Europe was asked by an artistic friend if he had picked up a Van Gogh or a Picasso.

"No," said the traveler, "all those foreign jobs have the steering wheel on the wrong side and besides I already have seven cars."

Enduring Subject

An operation is something that takes a surgeon an hour to perform and the patient years to describe.

Famous Letter

"I can't get my report card back," said the boy to the teacher. "You gave me an A in something and they're still mailing it to relatives."

Priority

"Congratulations, ma'am, you're fit as a fiddle," said the young doctor to an elderly female hypochondriac. "Don't tell me that, young man," she answered. "I was falling in health before you were born!"

Mutual Aid

And there's the two hypochondriacs who had a hurt-to-hurt talk.

No Trouble at All

The stout lady said to the policeman, "Could you see me across the street?" "Lady," he said, "I could see you a mile away!"

Last Time

The woman had employed a gardener, but she insisted on closely supervising his work.

One day, after giving him detailed instructions about some transplanting, she exclaimed impatiently, "In the time it takes me to tell you what to do, I could do it myself."

The gardener straightened up and leaned on his shovel. "Yes, madam," he replied gravely. "And in the time it takes me to listen, so could I!"

Neighbor: Where is Jimmy this afternoon?

Jimmy's sister: If he knows as much about canoes as HE thinks he does, he is out canoeing, but if he doesn't know any more about it than I think he does, he's swimming!

Farmer: Where did your other windmill go?

Neighbor: I only had wind enough to use it in my place so I took one of them down.

Deweese Named To New SBC Historical Commission Post

NASHVILLE (BP) — Charles William Deweese has joined the staff of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission here as assistant director of editorial and research services, a newly created position.

Deweese, 29, current pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, Oakland, Ky., has completed requirements for a doctor of theology degree in church history from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and also holds a master of divinity degree from Southern Seminary and a bachelor of arts degree from Mars Hill (N.C.) College.

Lynn May, Historical Commission executive secretary, said Deweese will assist in the production of periodicals, promotional materials and other publications, conduct research projects, provide historical information and consultation and assist in promoting the commission's program of recording, procuring, preserving and utilizing important Southern Baptist historical materials.

A native of Asheville, N. C., he is a former pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Madison, Ind., and was a recipient of a study grant from the Davis C. Wooley Memorial Fund, administered by the Historical Commission.

Mathiston Calls Pastor

Rev. Marvin D. Bibb has assumed duties as pastor of Mathiston Church after serving for three years and three months as pastor of Trinity, Vicksburg. During his pastorate at Trinity, the church had 228 additions and the budget doubled. Also at Trinity the bus ministry was expanded and became very effective.

Mr. Bibb is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. Before going to Vicksburg, he served churches at Lynn, Iowa; Poplar Springs (Simpson), Gilbertown, Alabama; and LaCombe, Louisiana. He has served on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and has held various association duties.

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Penn.—S. Jersey	2.83
South Carolina	2.36
Tennessee	1.41
Texas	1.99
Utah — Idaho	.84
Virginia	1.69
West Virginia	1.29

1st, Sumrall Calls Pastor

Rev. Don Nerren has been called as pastor of First Church, Sumrall. A native of Tupelo, he succeeds Dr. B. Frank Smith who has been serving as interim pastor.

Mr. Nerren goes to Sumrall from the Mt. Zion Church in Simpson County. During the past year Mt. Zion led its association with 53 baptisms and three young people have been called into full-time Christian work.

Mr. Nerren, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Nerren, Jr. of Tupelo, is married to the former Linda Cauthen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Teddy Cauthen of Collins. They have one daughter, Rhonda.

Mr. Nerren has served the New Zion Church in Simpson County, Flag Chapel Church, and Calvary Church, Jackson.



260 High Schoolers Visit BMC

When more than 260 high school students visited Blue Mountain College for High School weekend, many were interested in the Bible Department. Here Dr. James L. Travis, head of the department, is shown making explanations concerning one of the Bible students displays. Right to left are Rebecca Miller of New Albany; Pam Bush, Vardaman; and Renelda Pharr of Belmont.



New Multimedia Equipment In MC Accounting

Martin Davis (right), professor of business and head of the department of accounting at Mississippi College, watches as Debra Jones of McComb, an accounting major, uses the new multimedia equipment now available in the department. Designed for the course in Principles of Accounting, the audio-visual supplement has become quite popular with students as it allows them to review the subject at their own pace. Keyed to the textbook, the program offers the instructor an opportunity to present a complete basic accounting program integrating the text with color filmstrips and audio cassettes. (MC Photo by Bob Rampy)



Baxterville Burns Note

Baxterville Church recently held a noteburning ceremony, celebrating clearing of the last indebtedness on the church. Left to right: WMS president, Mrs. W. D. Kittrell; Dr. D. Wayne Evans, pastor at the time; Gerald Johnson, chairman of Building Committee; and Mason Thompson, chairman of deacons.



Clarke Class Visits Baptist Building

A class in religious education from Clarke College, under direction of Dr. Charles Melton, head of the Religious Education Department, recently visited Baptist points of interest in Jackson as a part of the "in-service" training sponsored by the Cooperative Missions Department, Dr. Foy Rogers, director. Those on second row are, from left: Therman Bryant, associate in Cooperative Missions Department, who directs the program; Dr. Melton; Dr. Rogers and Rev. Carey Cox, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation.

SCRAPBOOK

Credo For A New Year

I BELIEVE
THAT I ENTER A GLORIOUS NEW YEAR
TO BE FILLED WITH PRAYER
AND PRAISE,
WITH SERVICE TO GOD AND MANKIND,
WITH INSPIRED CREATIVE ACTIVITY.
I BELIEVE
THAT GOD'S PRESENCE GOES WITH ME
WHEREVER I SHALL GO THIS YEAR,
BY TRAIN OR BUS OR CAR OR BOAT,
SLOWLY PAVED ON FOOT, OR HIGH
IN AIR.
I BELIEVE
HIS LOVE IS SHINING IN MY BODY,
HIS WISDOM GUIDES MY MIND,
HIS PEACE FILLS ME WITH POISE,
HIS STRENGTH IS EVER AT MY CALL.

Oh, I Believe

THAT THIS IS GOD'S NEW YEAR.
— Elizabeth Searle Lamb

Another Year

Another year has come and gone;
I know not what comes with the dawn
Of this new year, but this I know—
God's hand will guide me as I go.
The Power that calmed the waves at sea,
Will still my doubt and comfort me.
— Emily May Young

Abide With Me

Change and decay in all around I see,
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee,
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.
— Henry F. Lyte

At Home

George Washington reported in his diary on the custom of New Year's Day calls when he lived in New York during his first term as President:
Friday, Jan. 1, 1790. The Vice-President, the Governor, the Senators, Members of the House of Representatives in town, foreign public characters and all respectable citizens came between the hours of 12 and 3 o'clock to pay the compliments of the season to me — and in the afternoon a great number of gentlemen and ladies visited Mrs. Washington on the same occasion.

Friends

There are friends I have yet to meet
I do not know their names
By the time they are all met
There will be more on this side

Enemies

and enemies,
but
I hope
than on this one.
— Mark Leggett

Let Us Go On

Let us take heart again, let us go on,
Whatever disaster or grief, or despair;
Walked with us through the old year that is gone,
Let us forget that it was ever there;
Let us forget that it walked by our side
The year is before us, a pathway untrod;
There will be open roads sunny and wide,
There will be happy days, there will be God.
Let us take heart again, surely we can;
Let us build steps on the errors we made;
Let us climb up to the sunlight again;
Out of the darkened wells, out of the shade;
Let us remember no evil can last;
Courage will come again certain as dawn
The New Year is here and the old year is past;
Let us take heart again, let us go on.
— Grace Noll Crowell

My Resolve

I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer creed;
I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed;
I will cease to sit repining while my duty's call is clear;
I will waste no moment whining, and my heart shall know no fear.
I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise;
I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze;
I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread;
I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead.
I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown;
I will not deny his merit, but I'll strive to prove my own;
I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine;
I will cease to preach your duty and be more concerned with mine.
— British Weekly

Things Undone

Dear Master, in Whose Life I see
All that I long and fail to be,
Let Thy clear light forever shine
To shame and guide this life of mine.
Though what I dream and what I do
In my poor days are always two,
Help me, oppressed by things undone,
O Thou, Whose dreams and deeds are one.
— John Hunter

The Clocks Of Life

The Clocks of Life are wound but once
And no man has the power—
To tell just when the hands will stop
At late or early hour.
To lose one's wealth is sad indeed,
To lose one's health is more,
To lose one's soul is such a loss
That no man can restore.
— Bulletin, Poplar Springs Drive



The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. — (II Cor. 5:17—RSV). — RNS PHOTO